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Southeast Asia Report



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2 May 1984

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BORDER SMUGGLING TRADE IN GOLD, HIDES REPORTED

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 3 Feb 84 p 2

[Text] Border troops at Aranyaprathet District seized 400 million baht worth of gold as black market traders smuggled it across the border from Kampuchea to Thailand. There were also silver drops and hides worth three million baht.

A MATICHON correspondent reported from Prachin Buri Province on 2 January that 2nd Lt Prasit Pradithong, commander of company Phan Ro Cho Ko 102, found out through his investigation that there would be black market merchants in the Thai-Kampuchean border area of Ta Praya District who would smuggle gold, silver drops and hides from Kampuchea into Thailand through strategic dikes in Koksung Hamlet, Ta Phraya District.

The correspondent said Lieutenant Prasit led 20 troops to intercept the merchants in the area of the dikes. They found 10 merchants with bundles hanging down their shoulders and asked to search them as they were walking. It was reported that the merchants refused to be searched. They ran into the woods leaving their things behind them. The confiscated materials included (6.5 kg of) gold, 30 kg of silver drops, and 80 kg of snake hides all worth a total of 2.7 million baht.

The correspondent reported that after the confiscation, Lieutenant Prasit notified Lt Col Thawee Suwangsang, battalion commander, of the confiscated goods, and took them to Krung Thai Bank, Aranyaprathet branch, for safe-keeping. Then the incident was reported to Maj Gen Phichit Mullanit, commander of the 1st Division, King's Guards, and deputy commander of the 1st Army Region.

However, the correspondent reported that after the gold was confiscated, Lieutenant Colonel Thawee was contacted and asked to return the gold by someone who said the confiscated real gold would be exchanged for fake gold. Now the military are looking for the real owner.

Additionally, Maj Witthaya Keson, inspector of the Aranyaprathet Police Station, disclosed that he received a report from someone who said that his gold was missing. He asked the police to find his gold for him. The inspector told the man to report his case to the Ta Phraya Provincial Police Station.

EDITORIAL HAILS VIENTIANE-HANOI COOPERATION ACCORD

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 6 Mar 84 p 1

[Editorial: "Praising the Accomplishments of the Visit of the Hanoi Capital Delegation to Vientiane Capital"]

[Text] In response to the official invitation of the chairman of the Vientiane Capital administrative committee, the Hanoi Capital delegation, led by Mr Cheun Wee, chairman of the Hanoi Capital People's Committee, came to visit Vientiane Capital from 1-5 Mar 1984.

On the occasion of this visit to Vientiane Capital, the Hanoi Capital delegation went to pay their respects to all the leaders of the LPRP and the State and to visit all the leaders of the LPRP committees and the Vientiane Capital administrative committee. In addition, the delegation also actively visited machine plants, factories, agricultural cooperatives and various basic production areas of Vientiane Capital.

The Vientiane Capital administrative committee and the Hanoi Capital delegation met together and exchanged ideas in evaluating the accomplishments of the plan of cooperation between the two capitals during the past year. Both sides expressed satisfaction and contentment in seeing that fraternal ties and friendship, special solidarity and cooperation in all areas that the capitals together have built up have been implemented in accordance with the policies of the two Central Committees of the LPRP and the Vietnam Communist Party and have grown to new levels and quality. The two capitals, Vientiane and Hanoi, are getting closer and closer each day as they struggle together, shoulder to shoulder, to overcome all the obstacles to socialist doctrine and communism in each capital, in each country and in the region.

The greatest accomplishment of the unification of the two capitals is expressed in the signing of the treaty concerning the plan for cooperation in politics, economics and culture, in building up cadres during 1984-1985 and in projecting the direction of the plan of cooperation during 1986-1990.

These agreements point to the solidarity between Laos and Vietnam, one that has been tested in detail many times during the history of the relations between the two nations. Every time, it has proven so pure, so precious, secure and firm, that nothing can shake it.

We, the people of Vientiane Capital, are overjoyed with the accomplishments of this meeting between the Vientiane Capital administrative committee and the Hanoi Capital delegation. The people--all ethnic groups, lay people of all ages and both sexes--throughout Vientiane Capital unanimously praise with all their hearts every evaluation and agreement to cooperate between the two capitals of Vientiane and Hanoi.

We, the people of Vientiane Capital, should exert our efforts together to implement completely the points of agreement of the plan of cooperation between the two capitals of Vientiane and Hanoi so that this plan of cooperation will succeed to the fullest. In order to attain that good result, every department and organization of the entire apparatus of the Vientiane Capital administration LPRP committee should have a detailed plan for executing that plan of cooperation so that it will materialize.

12587

CSO: 4206/99

LPRP, MASS ORGANIZATION GROWTH IN SAVANNAKHET, GUERRILLA BATTALIONS NOTED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 5 Mar 84 p 2

[Article by Kedmeuang: "Outhumphone District Strengthened"]

[Excerpts] The administrative committee of Outhumphone District, Savannakhet Province, unanimously resolved that, through weal and woe and to the best of its ability, it will implement the measures of the Third Congress of the LPRP which will be expressed in the tasks of continuously building the LPRP and improving its administration and mass organization. To date, it has succeeded in improving the district level LPRP; from only one LPRP chapter previously, it has progressed to 11 chapters, which eliminated 8 white cantons and 17 white villages [areas in which there had been no LPRP presence--JPRS].

To date, they have been able to improve different levels of administration, primarily at the canton level, throughout 18 cantons. Concerning mass organization, to date the membership has expanded to 805 men in 22 chapters for males, 3381 women in 407 chapters for females and 156 trade unionists in 18 chapters; united fronts have been established at every level. During this past period and similar to the present time, all those established organizations have been determined to take charge actively and enthusiastically of all tasks and different movements.

Concerning the constant task of defending the nation and maintaining the peace, the LPRP committee and district administrative committee have never let up in building up and improving the people's armed forces, in educating the people and in actively establishing and being able to build up three guerrilla battalions. There are armed guerrilla units in almost every canton. Because they take a great interest in improving the peacekeeping network everywhere, the entire district has been made much safer and more orderly than ever before.

To date, they have established collective production units throughout Outhumphone district that have become 13 agricultural cooperatives, 505 solidarity production boosting units and two labor exchange units. During the past 3 years, they have been able to produce not less than 20,000 tons of rice per year, with an estimated average productivity of 1.7 tons per hectare. For example, in 1981 they produced more than 31,000 tons with a productivity of 1.8 tons per hectare. Specifically in 1983, the average yield was 270 kilograms per person.

THAI MONKS TO VISIT, RELATIONS ASSESSED

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 3 Feb 84 pp 1, 16

[Text] Laos has launched a major plan to improve relations with Thailand, Lao monks are preparing to invite Thai monks for a visit. Thai television programs are a top hit. Lao people are feebly addicted to the "Kwan Fa Na Dum" series.

A MATICHON correspondent made an observation trip to Laos during the period from 30 January to 2 February, and [the correspondent] was told by Venerable Pra Achan Thong Khun Anantasonton, president of the High Council of the Buddhist Relations Organization of Laos, that at present the Lao authorities are preparing a major plan for improvement of relations with Thailand. On the part of Buddhist monks, the Buddhist Relations Organization of Laos plans to invite a delegation of Thai Buddhist monks to visit Laos in April or May, and to allow the Thai monks to tour Kampuchea and Vietnam afterwards.

However, the Lao monks have not issued an official invitation, although they had made an approach before. And it is believed that the Thais would not reject the invitation.

Prince Suban Saritthilad, deputy foreign minister of Laos, told MATICHON's correspondent that Laos yearned to improve its relations with Thailand. And Laos would like Thailand to separate the Kampuchea problem from this issue, and create a bilateral relations with Laos--the relations which are gradually improving, especially after the talks in January between Thai and Lao delegations in Bangkok.

Prince Suban also said the Thai authorities would not raise the issue of difference in political systems as an obstacle to the relations between the two countries. This is because the people of Laos and the people of Thailand have been spiritually tied to one another for so long, as though the two peoples were blood relatives.

The life of the people in Laos has returned to normal; trade is beginning to stir as the role of the private sector still exists. And since color television Channel 7 improved its transmission via satellite, the Lao people along the border areas have been able to tune in to Channel 7's programs with

considerable clarity. It appeared that Thai television programs are highly popular among the Lao people.

MATICHON's correspondent reported that although the television station in Vientiane has become operational, a high percentage of Lao people still prefer Thai television, and are feebly addicted to Thai television series. The current top hit Thai TV series are "Kwan Fa Na Dum," (black-face hero Kwan Fa), and a less popular series is "Rong Raem Wiparit" (Crazy Hotel).

12282

CSO: 4207/79

THAI PAPER VIEWS DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENTS, ATMOSPHERE

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 5 Feb 84 p 14

[Article by Sumitra Chan-ngao]

[Text] With the Lao communist victory on 2 December 1975, the old economic and social systems in Laos were entirely destroyed. The people were fearful as they never had been before of the new society to be created.

Tens of thousands of Lao people were forced by fear to flee for survival by crossing the border into Thailand. Those who had relatives in Thailand took the opportunity to look for ways to make a living in this country. Those who came with nothing but their naked bodies had to live in refugees holding centers hoping that some day their lives would be better.

As for the conditions in Laos, a new era began with a new socialist government of the People's Democratic Republic of Laos under the leadership of Prince Suphanouvong that inherited a disastrous economy of the old regime. Factories everywhere were abandoned; both small and large financiers made a last-ditch attempt to take their assets and property out of the country.

Some small entrepreneurs, who had accumulated cash in millions of kip, went berserk when bags and bags of cash in kip were rendered worthless immediately after the new government of Laos announced a realignment of the Lao currency and an appropriation of private capital.

During the first 5 months after the new system of government was installed, observers who had gone into Laos at the time revealed that Vientiane, the capital city, once beautiful and spectacular with fine temples, was almost abandoned.

Every road in Vientiane and in other cities were without people, except soldiers patrolling day and night as food gradually became scarce.

The horror and nightmare of the people intensified when the Khmer Rouge Government of Kampuchea implemented a mistaken policy and slaughtered hundreds of thousands of people. This became a picture that horrified the people of Laos who feared that it could befall them.

The Lao socialist government was created under these conditions. It is no different from starting over from scratch because there was nothing left of the old system except the horror of the people.

After 7 years on the socialist path, Laos has not been able to eliminate all the thorny problems, be it the problem of a rightist group still carrying on a guerrilla war in the north of Laos or the people's bread and butter problem.

However, during the short period of time that has elapsed, the government of Laos has made its full effort to restore the morale and will of the people almost to the normal level. People are beginning to move around once again; soldiers have been removed from the city to the fronts; automobiles are busy on the roads again. The city has become "alive" once more after a period of dormancy.

The People's Democratic Republic of Laos in 1984, with a population of 3.9 million, has come a long way, although it still depends on enormous amounts of foreign aid.

One of the many steps it has taken has been an attempt to eventually restore its economy back to self-sufficiency, and to achieve one of the immediate goals, which is the expansion of education for its people all over the country.

This is part of the government policy to develop its personnel to sustain the economic, social and political growth of the country in the future.

The official figures of Laos indicate that during the year 1983, Laos was able to produce enough rice to feed its people in spite of the problems of severe droughts. And the next goal is to raise enough animals to produce enough meat for its people.

However, who would know for sure that those figures are true and not just fine figures that no one can ever verify?

"Food shortage is too great, son." This is the voice of the people in the streets. But mixed with that voice is a tone indicating the hope that life will improve.

Yes, we should give the Lao socialist government more of an opportunity to prove itself.

12282

CSO: 4207/85

BRIEFS

PHONG SALY DISTRICT LPRP--The Seventh Congress of the Samphanh District LPRP, Phong Saly Province, in session since 24 Feb 1984, adjourned at the end of February with a glorious accomplishment. More than 50 district LPRP committee and basic production area LPRP chapter comrades from the entire district participated. During the 5 day session of the congress, in addition to summarizing the economic development performance of the past period and laying out the economic development plan for 1984, the congress also elected a new district LPRP committee numbering 15 comrades. They are the driving force with the knowledge, ability, strong qualifications and firm convictions for guiding the people of all ethnic groups in their local areas to carry out their revolutionary tasks, to defend and construct the country to make it wealthy and strong, and to lead in successfully and victoriously executing the First 5-Year State Economic Development Plan. [Text] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 5 Mar 84 p A8] 12587

LOUANG NAMTHA DISTRICT PARTY--The First Congress of the Viengphoukham District LPRP, Louang Namtha Province, adjourned successfully on 1 March after carrying out its task deliberately and quickly in 5 days. There were more than 50 regular LPRP representatives from the entire district who joined in the congress. During the congress, the participating representatives evaluated the condition of the movement in defending the district and in developing its economy over the past year and considered their district duties for 1984-1985. The congress also elected a new executive committee of nine comrades for the new district LPRP committee. All this is geared to improving and strengthening their established system, to prodding and guiding the movement in its local area to go on the right track, perform smoothly and progress continuously. [Text] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 6 Mar 84 p A1, 2] 12587

CSO: 4206/99

MINISTER LEONG OPTIMISTIC ABOUT FUTURE OF MALAYSIAN PRODUCTS

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 1 Jan 84 p 2

[Text] "We are entering the year 1984 in a relatively optimistic mood. During the past 12 months, the prices of some of our main primary products indicated a markedly improving trend. This trend is likely to be continued and may even be bettered in 1984."

Thus said Datuk Paul Leong Khee Seong, minister of primary industries, in his New Year's message. His statement reads as follows:

"Natural rubber and palm oil, particularly the latter, performed extremely well in 1983. Compared with 1982, their improvement in price and export quantity was a happy turning point. The export value of these two principal products greatly helped augment our foreign exchange revenue last year. Besides rubber and palm oil, exports of cocoa, pepper and cut timber were relatively vigorous, particularly cocoa and pepper.

"The formation of the Federation of Tin Producing Countries, which was founded and led by our country, is an important development for the promotion of the common benefit of tin producing countries. I'd like to take this opportunity to laud our tin industry circles for their cooperation in striving for our national interest and in reducing tin production. As the tin industry is facing difficulties, all sides must make sacrifices in order to minimize the recession's ill effects and must also help consolidate the future of the tin industry. Although export restrictions have reduced the tin glut on the market, such measures must be maintained for a certain period. Therefore, we need urgently to intensify our economic activities in affected mining areas with the view to diverting the tinmine workers to some other occupations. As I suggested in the past, it is necessary to set up more industries, particularly in the Perak tin-mining region, to mitigate the bad effects caused by the declining tin-exploration industry and to provide the workers with other job opportunities.

"Prospects for the year 1984 are that the United States and Japan will continue to lead the economic recovery and that Western Europe will improve its performance. This general upsurge of world economic activities will create a favorable effect on the prices and exports of our country's primary products. It is expected that other developing and socialist countries will import larger quantities of raw materials from us. This overall expansion of world trade indicates that

the price recovery of our primary products will be maintained throughout 1984, if not improved further. This relatively good performance of our raw materials will help improve our exports and increase our people's income, particularly small estate owners and laborers.

"It must be remembered, however, that in spite of these favorable changes, the coming years are still replete with many difficulties and insecure factors. Consequently, the Malaysian people must remain alert and prepared to face future challenges. They should make great efforts to intensify their developing power, so that our primary products can become more competitive on the market. The Ministry of Primary Industries will continue to strengthen its research and development in order to help producers improve their productive power and to expand the uses of primary products as well as to promote their demand.

I'd like to call on the Malaysian people to save. Thriftiness is a fine traditional virtue. The more money we save, the greater our domestic resource becomes for the expansion of our productive force. Therefore, we must not only work hard but also save money for a higher capital growth and for the regeneration through self-reliance of our country and people.

It is clear that we should welcome the New Year with greater optimism and determination. In this mood I wish the entire Malaysian people a happy New Year," Datuk Paul Leong concluded.

9300

CSO: 4205/37

COMMENTARY DISCUSSES COMING UMNO, MCA ELECTIONS

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 26 Jan 84 p 2

/Commentary/

/Text/ Both the United Malays National Organization /UMNO/ and the Malaysian Chinese Association /MCA/, our two major political parties, are scheduled to hold elections in May and June, respectively, of this year. We may then expect scenes bustling with noise and excitement.

Since early this year, we have been reading news about the election trends of both parties. In particular, UMNO's leaders, including those of the party's youth and women wings, have one after another dropped hints about their respective viewpoints and have started campaigning.

With respect to MCA's leaders, their maneuverings are not so clearcut; they are like "a turbulent subterranean flow of water," to quote a well-known saying. At present, this party probably finds itself in a state of flux. At any rate, both the UMNO and the MCA are the two principal members of the National Front coalition government, and they occupy a decisive position in the nation's political stability. That's why their movements evoke public attention and speculation.

Intense competition occurred at UMNO's previous election, especially for the post of deputy president of the party which was contested by Finance Minister Tengku Razaleigh and then Education Minister Datuk Musa Hitam. It turned out that Musa Hitam won the battle. In reality, the infighting within the party has worsened since.

Judging by the recent activities of UMNO members, it appears that some of them are hoping that Tengku Razaleigh will stage a comeback and wrest the coveted post from the hands of Musa Hitam. Although the tengku has not made known his intentions, it is highly probable that he will risk everything on this venture of winning, as he realizes that his political position in the party is weakening with the passing of time.

As a matter of fact, after his defeat in the previous election, Tengku Razaleigh intended to withdraw from the political arena but was dissuaded from doing so by Dr Mahathir.

Datuk Harun Idris, currently UMNO's vice president, also intends to contend for the post of party president now held by Dr Mahathir. Harun commands great influence among UMNO's older generation, otherwise he could not have won the vice presidency at the last party election with flying colors. If he and Tengku Razaleigh join hands to challenge the present party leadership, a very intense situation is likely to crop up in the coming election.

On the other hand, after Datuk Lee San Choon's retirement, the posts of acting MCA president and deputy president will be provisionally held by Datuk Neo Yee Pan and Datuk Mak Hon Kam, respectively, pending the election of new officers in June.

Reports emanating from political circles indicate that Tan Koon Swan, the MCA's current vice president and chairman of Multi-purpose Holdings, is aspiring after the party presidency, but this writer believes that he is no match for Neo Yee Pan, even if he enlists the aid of Lee Kim Sai.

As MCA acting president, Datuk Neo Yee Pan tends to belittle Tan Koon Swan's contributions to the party. For instance, Tan's name is not mentioned in several new organizations of the party, which made him lose face. Datuk Neo has all along felt that Tan will one day challenge him, and that's why he deals his prospective opponent a blow at the first encounter. Judging by the prevailing situation, more and more people think that Tan will go to all lengths to challenge Datuk Neo.

As a matter of fact, Tan Koon Swan entered politics only a few years ago, and he should be satisfied with the miraculous accomplishments he has scored thus far.

In challenging Datuk Neo, Tan may have a 50-50 chance of winning. If he wins, well and good, but if he loses, he will lose everything. As the old saying goes, "Smart people will not fight a losing battle," and the defeats of Datuk Chen Wing Sum and Datuk Ho Boon Han serve as good precedents.

9300

CSO: 4205/47

PRIME MINISTER'S TRIP ABROAD

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 12 Jan 84 p 2

[Editorial: "The Prime Minister's Trip to the United States"]

[Text] Prime Minister Datuk Dr Mahathir yesterday evening departed on a visit to Canada, the United States, France, and Switzerland. The most important part of the itinerary is, of course, his one-week trip to the United States. Prior to his departure, Dr Mahathir said that he hoped his trip would enable the American people to have better understanding of Malaysia.

The American people have limited knowledge of Malaysia. In seeking the reasons, it is probably as Dr Mahathir said: "There is no fighting, killing, or revolution in our country. Compared to the trade statistics, such news is more readable." Thus, the American people can know much about events in Kampuchea but not understand Malaysia, whose population is twice that of Kampuchea.

During his visit to the United States, Dr Mahathir will hold talks with President Reagan, Secretary of Defense Weinberger, and other U.S. officials. The problems to be discussed by the leaders of Malaysia and the United States will include international problems, regional problems, and problems relevant to the two parties. The United States is a superpower and our country is a member of the third world. There are differences between the views of the two countries toward some international problems, which is only natural. For example, with regard to Law of the Sea, South Africa, and Palestine questions, the views of the two countries are practically opposite.

However, with regard to regional cooperation Malaysia and the United States are in agreement. The United States not only supports the concept of the ASEAN organization but has established close economic ties with it. The United States also supports the standpoint of the ASEAN countries toward the Kampuchean question.

The talks between the leaders of the two countries will emphasize relations between the two sides. A former U.S. ambassador to Malaysia has acknowledged that relations between Malaysia and the United States are unsatisfactory. That ambassador put the blame on the disparity in size between the two

countries. He stated that since Malaysia is such a small country it would be difficult for it to draw the attention of Washington. In fact, the real reasons are not so simple.

Take as an example the question of the U.S. GSA's selling of large quantities of stockpiled tin. Over a long period of time the United States sold large quantities of stockpiled tin as it saw fit, which affected the movement of tin prices and caused our country considerable headaches. In the middle of last year representatives of the two countries held talks in Washington which resulted in an agreement. The United States agreed to limit its sales of GSA tin to 6,000 tons in 1983 and 1984. Although in form the agreement was a "big breakthrough" which caused the U.S. Government to rationalize its selling of large quantities of stockpiled tin, it still was not entirely satisfactory. It is anticipated that in his talks with the U.S. leaders Dr Mahathir will request that the United States manifest a more responsible attitude toward the selling of large quantities of stockpiled tin.

According to a news report, when Dr Mahathir and U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger confer they will discuss our country's intention to purchase U.S. military equipment. Recently Thailand discussed with the United States the purchase of advanced F-16 fighters to cope with the threat from the north. But Dr Mahathir intends to buy F-5G fighters, not the F-16 model, because the F-16 fighter requires a well-equipped arms network and very high support costs. Furthermore, our country realizes that at present it does not need the model F-16 fighter.

Even if, because of Dr Mahathir's visit, relations between Malaysia and the United States are not fully satisfactory, we believe that certain improvements can be brought about.

5616

CSO: 4205/40

RESULTS OF PM'S TRIP TO U. S. EXAMINED

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 23 Jan 84 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text] Having concluded his 5-day official visit to Washington, D.C., Prime Minister Dr Mahathir endured the hardships of a long journey and flew to Paris for another stint.

Before he visited the United States, the prime minister intimated that his trip hopefully would enable the American people to understand Malaysia better and promote the trade relationship between the two countries.

On these two counts, the prime minister's U.S. trip was a great success with extraordinary results.

The U.S. secretary of the treasury, after a meeting with Prime Minister Mahathir, promised that henceforth America will consult with Malaysia on matters concerning the stockpiling and purchasing of rubber. In addition, Washington agreed not only to find ways and means to narrow the trade gap, which is unfavorable to Malaysia, but also to help Malaysian products enter the U.S. market. At the same time, America is also prepared to help Malaysia tap new uses of tin in order to stimulate the volume of tin consumption.

These issues are important for the development of our economy. We hope that the United States will keep its promise, on the one hand refraining from pursuing the protectionist policy in order to balance our bilateral trade and on the other hand releasing its tin and rubber stocks in a more reasonable way in order not to disturb the market or hurt our revenues. It is hoped that the economic relationship between the two countries will henceforth become as fair and reasonable as the one we have always pursued.

Such U.S. moves not only coincide with our interest but also bring advantages to America itself. As Prime Minister Mahathir remarked in a speech before the American Foreign Policy Association and the World Affairs Council, the national security of the United States will be strengthened by the progress of the Third World in the social, economic and economic fields.

Judging by the changes that have taken place in a number of Third World countries,

the prime minister's remark was an astute one indeed. Take Nicaragua, Angola and Ethiopia, for example. In each of these countries, the political, economic and social conditions have become so chaotic that they have provided the "North Polar Bear" with an opportunity to muscle in and place the U.S. global strategy in an unfavorable position.

The United States and Malaysia hold identical views toward the majority of international problems, but divergences do occur on certain issues. It is common knowledge that we find it difficult to agree with U.S. Middle East policy. But, as the leader of one of the Third World countries, Prime Minister Mahathir's pertinent and outspoken criticism of the U.S. policy has won universal attention.

Before leaving the United States, Prime Minister Mahathir talked about the Third World's disappointment with America, because the latter often takes a position antagonistic to small countries on certain issues, such as the new international economic order, the treaty on law of the sea, the Antarctica problem, multilateral trade negotiations, etc. He also pointedly criticized the U.S.'s overemphasis on military means to contain its adversaries in an effort to maintain its own national security, while ignoring the hopes and aspirations of the Third World.

This sincere advice evidently was a considerable shock to the Americans, compelling U.S. officials to go to all lengths to narrow the Malaysian-U.S. "divergences." Yet, through these words, the American people now have a better understanding of our country and the ambitions and aspirations of Third World countries.

9300

CSO: 4205/45

COMMENTARIES ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Selangor Editorial

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 11 Jan 84 p 2

[Editorial: "Constitutional Monarchy Further Strengthened"]

[Text] After the two chambers of Parliament convened a special session and approved the third reading of the 1984 Constitutional Amendments bill, a constitutional problem that had perplexed our country's people was finally satisfactorily resolved.

In effect, after the "crisis" between the Mahathir government and the Supreme Head regarding the 1983 Constitutional Amendments bill resulted in an agreement, and after the Deputy Supreme Head of 5 December of last year officially signed and approved the relevant bill, the constitutional amendment "crisis" was already over. The achievement of the passage of the 1984 Constitutional Amendments bill was a result of the practical agreement of the Mahathir government. Its great significance lies in the declaration that after undergoing a severe test, our country's constitutional monarchy had become even stronger and more in accord with modern requirements than in the past. This point deserves comment: even though the government made such a notorious "concession," no one can deny that the Mahathir government attained its most important objectives--making our state administration even smoother and eliminating the people's suspicion of the parliamentary democracy system.

The Constitution is the foundation of the nation. The drafting of our country's constitution, as Prime Minister Mahathir pointed out, had as its goal embodying a parliamentary democracy and constitutional monarchy state. However, although the Constitution is the fundamental law of the state it is man-made, and since that is so it is not possible to claim with certainty that at all times it is perfect in all ways, and it is certain to, in the process of our nation's development, manifest in one way or another the weakness of not being in accord with the actual requirements. If such a situation arises, it becomes necessary to amend the Constitution. Of course, the amendment of the Constitution is related to the rights and interests of the people. If it is not in the interests of the people it cannot obtain their support. Since our country became independent our Constitution,

whether it was the Constitution of the Federation of Malaya or the later Constitution of Malaysia, has been amended several times. Actuality has demonstrated that one government after another has, when amending the Constitution, manifested a full sense of responsibility, and when carrying out the necessary amendment of the Constitution the government has also fully manifested its concern.

The present Constitutional amendments are obviously supported by the great majority of the people. With regard to the most controversial, Article 66(5), prior to the current amendment it stipulated that a bill approved by Parliament had to obtain the signature of the Supreme Head, otherwise it could not become law. After the present revision, it explicitly stipulates that after the two houses of Parliament approve a bill, within 30 days of its submission for approval by the Supreme Head the Supreme Head may present a contrary opinion and make a recommendation. Parliament must convene a session to debate it as soon as possible. However, once Parliament approves the bill in question a second time, whether or not the Supreme Head approves it the bill will automatically become law after 30 days.

There is no doubt that the present revision has already affirmed our Parliament's position as the sole, highest lawmaking organization, and that it possesses absolute legislative power. That point, with regard to the implementation of our country's one-man-one-vote parliamentary democracy, has a truly great significance. It may be said to be the embodiment of the principle of the people serving as the nation's masters.

Prime Minister Mahathir incisively pointed out that a result of the constitutional amendment "crisis" has been to clearly demonstrate the inadequacy of Article 66(5). That sentence indicates the importance of the recent constitutional amendment.

KIN KWOK Comment

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 11 Jan 84 p 2

[Commentary by Lan Yu [3448 4558]: "The Constitutional Amendment Problem Is Finally Satisfactorily Resolved"]

[Text] Finally, during a lengthy special session of Parliament, the third reading of the 1984 Constitutional Amendments bill was easily approved by a vote of 141 to 10.

All Members of Parliament attended the session, and none abstained. All 10 Democratic Action Party Members also attended the session, which demonstrates the importance of the recent constitutional amendments to the nation's people.

That special session of the lower chamber of Parliament was the fourth to be convened since our country became independent. The first was in 1965, to debate Singapore's secession from Malaysia; the second was in 1977, to discuss the disturbance in Kelantan and the resulting withdrawal of the Pan-Malaya Islamic Party from the National Front; and the third was in 1981,

to debate a new time zone in order to unify the time in the Malayan Peninsula, Sabah, and Sarawak.

The constitutional amendment crisis has already led to various conjectures. During the past several months the Government and the Supreme Head could not reach an agreement, which caused Prime Minister Mahathir to have to visit various places in the nation to explain to the people the necessity of amending the Constitution.

After the two sides reached an understanding and held joint discussions, the constitutional amendments were finally given royal approval by the Supreme Head. Obviously, our country's parliamentary democracy-constitutional monarchy system has matured and our people's thinking has taken a great leap forward.

In reality, all laws and constitutions are man-made and cannot be immutable. They must be changed or amended to correspond to the requirements of the times, the circumstances, society, and the nation. Only thereby can a country with a popular democratic system make progress and its people have confidence. Prime Minister Mahathir emphasized that our country's constitution stipulated the establishment of a parliamentary democracy-constitutional monarchy state. However, a constitution drawn up by man is not perfect and flawless. Therefore, Malaysia's constitution must continually be amended. However, the government amended the constitution reluctantly and imperiously.

Obviously, the government moved to amend the constitution only in the face of the growing demands of the people and the nation.

As for the enquiries made by MP K'a Pa Hsing, a member of the DAP, who was slipping more and more deeply into the hole, regarding the acts of the Supreme Head with regard to the people, Prime Minister Mahathir clearly explained that although the people are protected by laws the Constitution stipulates that the Supreme Head cannot be accused in an ordinary court. However, that does not mean that the Supreme Head can arbitrarily commit crimes or persecute anyone. The Supreme Head, furthermore, cannot arbitrarily plunder property or break promises, and of course is required to pay debts. Obviously, the Supreme Head must obey the supreme law of the land and act in accordance with the national constitution.

According to the new revision of Article 66(5), the deadline by which the Supreme Head must approve a bill was increased from 15 days to 30 days. However, the important thing is that it will no longer be possible for the Supreme Head to take advantage of the time limit for approving a bill to veto a bill passed by Parliament. If a bill originating in Parliament had been passed by it and submitted for the approval of the Supreme Ruler, if the king objected within 30 days the bill in question had to be reconsidered by Parliament. That means that the Supreme Ruler's opinion would be debated by Parliament. That was the situation prior to the constitutional amendment, when Parliament was unable to adopt any measure to overcome the Supreme Head's refusal to consent to a bill passed by Parliament.

Despite that, our country is a nation with a popular democracy and constitutional monarchy. As the Prime Minister emphasized: "Because we did not want to abolish the monarchy, we were compelled to select a constitutional monarchy to uphold the position of the Supreme Ruler."

The constitutional amendments have been easily approved and our country will advance on the great road toward parliamentary democracy and constitutional monarchy, and the people will have greater democratic freedoms with which to work for national prosperity.

5616

CSO: 4209/40

POLITICAL DISSENT AMONG CHINESE IN PAST YEAR VIEWED

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 1 Jan 84 p 2

[Commentary: "Looking Back amid Hackneyed and Stereotyped Expressions"]

[Text] How time flies! Before you know it, the year 1983 is gone and here we are in 1984. Business leaders and high-ranking government officials issue their customary New Year messages to review the past and draw inspiration therefrom for the future. Even vendors and gofers and townspeople and students are no exception; they make resolutions and express hopes for better luck in the coming 365 days. All these words are cliches which conform to thousands of years of conventional form and which continue to live on.

However, these New Year messages and resolutions will never change the affairs of human life or enable human beings to lead happier days under an atmosphere of peace and order. People are still frightened and confused and struggling for life amidst the law of the jungle.

The world is dominated by two nuclear superpowers: the United States and the Soviet Union. Both are striving for their respective interests and seeking world hegemony. Consequently, no agreement can be reached in their negotiations dealing with arms and war strategy. Even in their arms race, neither side wants to lag behind, and each keeps producing new weaponry on the sly to dominate the other and to be the master of the world.

Man may have created and enjoyed civilization, yet he feels threatened by civilization in this civilized world. What a shame! What a big irony!

On the other side of civilization, billions of people are suffering from cold and hunger, are naked and destitute and living a hopeless life forever.

We who are known as "dragon people" and who shoulder the banners of one of the so-called four ancient civilizations have annually been babbling sweet nothings and launching countless movements. Yet, year after year, not only have we remained the same, but our condition has even gone from bad to worse.

After several by-elections in our country, what we have witnessed in our highly civilized Chinese community is nothing but worsening dissension. Would you say that the Chinese are politically immature? Yet, when it comes to

scrambling for personal power and profit, they will go to all lengths to grab it, even at the risk of bloodshed and decapitation. So you play your own politics and I advocate my ownism and everybody is on his own, in complete disregard of the rules of the game. The end result is that the national politics of the whole Chinese society is totally and unconsciously ignored.

Again, during the past year, there was an upsurge in the Chinese community to acquire a sound portfolio of shares with the hope of stabilizing the ethnic Chinese economy and enabling it to march side by side with other friendly nationals. However, after achieving some minor results, their enthusiasm has gone with the wind.

Where lies the stumbling block? How can the dragon descendants with thousands of years of cultural history not know it? It isn't that they don't know it, it's because they are not willing to change on the strength of their collective political force. That is the tragedy of the ethnic Chinese people!

Today is the beginning of a new year and we should say something nice and encouraging. Yet we have been mentioning hackneyed and stereotyped expressions all these years. Isn't it high time to change our tune?

Let this be our New Year's message!

9300

CSO: 4205/37

SUGGESTED USE OF MALAY IN CHINESE NEW YEAR CARDS CONSIDERED UNCONSTITUTIONAL

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 24 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] An open dispute arising out of the nonuse of Malay on Chinese New Year cards may quickly develop into an omen for another form of conflict and challenge for the Chinese community. The Malay side reproached the absence of Malay on the cards as a sign of disrespect to the national language, while the Chinese claimed the free nonofficial utilization of Chinese culture and language.

On 13 January, UTUSAN MELAYU carried a front-page story saying that many people interviewed by this Malay-language paper, including Chinese middle school students, expressed displeasure over the absence of Malay on Chinese New Year cards. The daily implied that the Chinese have no respect for the national language, adding vehemently that a "correction" would be in order.

About a week later, on 21 January, the same paper prominently carried a letter to the editor submitted by one "R.S." under the heading of "absence of Malay on Chinese New Year Cards Deplored," which argued that this nonuse of Malay is a sign of disrespect to the national language.

The letter held that the Malay New Year and the Red-letter Days of the Chinese and Indians or of other religions all belong to multiracial Malaysia, so ignoring the Malay language on the greeting cards not only is unreasonable but also fails to reflect fully our multiracial characteristics.

This disquieting news has evoked criticism by Tan Soo Guan, director of the Politburo of MCA's Petaling Division. He said that greeting cards are purely commercial merchandise published and sold for profit to suit the buyers' taste. Furthermore, the Chinese language printed on the cards is not for official use. Mr Tan pointed out that our constitution stipulates that any non-Malay language may be freely put to use for unofficial purposes and that it cannot force individuals to use Malay on unofficial occasions. Therefore, the suggestion brought up by the Malay paper violates the principle and spirit of our constitution.

Tan Soo Guan countered: "Even if Chinese greeting card publishers willingly include Malay on Chinese New Year cards, its typeface will understandably

appear smaller than the Chinese characters. Now, in such circumstance, won't the readers of that paper also clamor for a more prominent position of the Malay language on the greeting cards, on the ground that Malay is our national language? If our multiracial characteristic is to be fully reflect the Malays' New Year cards should also include the Chinese and Tamil languages."

Mr Tan argued that readers of UTUSAN MELAYU mixed up the terms of "official" and "nonofficial," otherwise they would not have come up with such "queer" ideas. It's high time for us to understand and respect our constitution, he concluded.

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CSO: 4205/46

COMMENTARY DISCUSSES DECLINE IN CHINESE-SCHOOL STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 7 Jan 84 p 2

[Commentary]

[Text] Generally speaking, things went on smoothly when schools opened this year. Various Chinese primary schools in all states faced fewer problems than they did in previous years. For one thing, the teacher shortage situation has eased considerably, thanks to education minister Tan Tiong Hong's notification last year that temporary teachers may automatically continue in service without a letter of reappointment. For another, practically all the textbooks were completely printed on time, with the exception of one or two subjects, the delay of which was probably due to logistical problems; in previous years, by contrast, the textbooks arrived at the schools belatedly, which created a serious problem for the pupils.

This year we are shifting our attention to the number of new pupils entering Chinese primary schools. According to the survey, there is no increase in the number of new pupils enrolled in various Chinese primary schools throughout the land. Some schools maintain the same number of pupils in their classes as in the past, but in other schools the number of pupils has declined by a wide margin. According to reports, in Johore state the total number of new pupils enrolled in Chinese primary schools this year is 16,123. Compared with last year's 17,261 entering pupils in the same state, this represents a drop of 1,138 Chinese primary-school students. In other words, the number of classes in Johore Chinese primary schools has been reduced by more than 20; as a corollary, more than 20 teachers will not get a teaching appointment. This is just a phenomenon in one state, and if other states experience the same situation, the total reduction in classes may reach serious proportions. And if this trend should continue in the coming years, the future of Chinese primary schools would be dreadful to contemplate.

Consequently, looking squarely at the problem of the drop of pupils entering Chinese primary schools should be our primary task today.

Indeed, Chinese primary schools have always been regarded as orphans and looked down on by the authorities, and their development has always completely depended on the support of the Chinese community. Therefore, quite apart from some objective factors, their survival needs the wholehearted support of the Chinese

themselves, without which all talks about their development would serve no practical purpose.

Government officials have repeatedly said that if the Chinese community does not want Chinese primary schools, naturally they cannot exist; on the other hand, if these schools are needed, they will live forever. This may be a trite remark, but that is a fact. As long as parents think that under the prevailing circumstances, a Chinese education offers few opportunities to earn a decent living, they are compelled to send their children to other schools for the sake of their progeny's future. Consequently, fewer and fewer Chinese children are sent to Chinese schools, with the result that the classes will become empty in due course, and the schools will eventually be closed down. Nothing strange about that!

A good case in point is our neighboring country which is supposed to attach importance to the Chinese language. Under the free choice of parents, fewer and fewer Chinese children are sent to Chinese primary schools as time passes on.

We fully understand the predicament of Chinese schools, the difficulties they are facing and the unfavorable government policies against Chinese primary schools, so that graduates of Chinese schools have no place to go and blame their parents.

As we are aware of these factors, we must find ways to rectify these deviations, to overcome the difficulties. In this environment and society, we must find ways for Chinese schools to get a foothold and carry on, but not be resigned to our inertia and destroy the future of the Chinese primary school system.

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CSO: 4205/45

CHINESE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT REFLECTS BIRTH RATE DECLINE

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 12 Jan 84 p 2

[Article: "Tun Shu Chen Points Out That Since 1970's Growth Rate of Chinese in West Malaysia Has Tended to Decline Year After Year, Has Created Sudden Reduction in Chinese Elementary School Pupils"]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 11 January--According to "statistical data" made public by the Family Planning Department of the Prime Minister's Office, since the 1970's the annual population growth rate of the Chinese in West Malaysia has tended to decline gradually. As a result, this year everywhere in the country the number of pupils entering Chinese elementary schools has suddenly fallen. That announcement was made today by lawyer Tun Shu Chen, Chairman of the National Front in Jiatong District.

In his statement he also said that according to a preliminary investigation the principal reason for the sudden decline in the number of pupils entering Chinese elementary schools this year was an irregular change in the birth rate of West Malaysian Chinese in the 1970's.

The statement added that although the growth rate suddenly increased in 1976, after 1977 it fell to an even lower level compared to the average annual birth rate of the Chinese ethnic group. That shows that more Chinese children were born in 1976 than in any other year in the 1970's. The children born in that year were the age group entering elementary schools last year (1983).

The statement further pointed out that the number of Chinese children born since 1977 has declined by about 10 percent (approximately 11,000). Therefore, the resulting reduction in the number of new pupils entering Chinese elementary schools (those born in 1977) compared to the number of new pupils last year was normal.

The statement added that if one wants to compare the percentage increase or decrease in the number of Chinese children attending Chinese elementary schools, one should compare the number of new Chinese elementary school pupils this year with the new pupils last year.

The "statistical data" of the Family Planning Department of the Prime Minister's Office are as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Annual Population Increase Rate (%) of Chinese in West Malaysia</u>	<u>Total Number of Chinese Children Born in That Year</u>
1974	2.18	78,364
1975	2.05	75,598
1976	3.31	86,587
1977	1.97	75,548
1978	2.00	78,210

5616

CSO: 4205/40

EDUCATION MINISTRY URGED TO ENLARGE QUOTA FOR NONBUMIPUTRA VETERINARY STUDENTS

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 7 Jan 84 p 3

[Text] Lau Kan, chairman of the Union of Poultry and Livestock Enterprises, urged the Education Ministry to increase the quota for nonbumiputra, particularly Chinese, students in the Veterinary Department of the Agricultural University. His appeal is based on the objective requirements and the future of the poultry and livestock industry.

He told this reporter today that the said university annually accepts 30 new veterinary students--2 Chinese, 1 Indian, 2 East Malaysians and 25 bumiputras. He added that at the present time, more than 90 percent of ethnic Chinese people are engaged in animal husbandry, mostly as pig and chicken breeders.

Mr Lau indicated that bumiputra or Muslim students who graduated from the Veterinary Department of the Agricultural University are invariably unwilling to work at poultry-breeding sites. Moreover, they are reluctant to take up sales and marketing jobs for veterinary merchants or at poultry-breeding places, because they do not want to get involved with poultry-breeding farming households.

He said that if such a situation were allowed to persist, it would lead to an overabundance of bumiputra veterinarians and a shortage of ethnic Chinese veterinarians. And this will bring detrimental effects to the development and future of our poultry and livestock industry.

He expressed hope that the Education Ministry will seriously consider and weigh all factors to bring benefit to our numerous farming households and to our poultry industry.

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CSO: 4205/45

RESOLUTIONS OF YOUTH SOLIDARITY MOVEMENT CONGRESS

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 9 Jan 84 p 3

[Text] The Eighth Youth Solidarity Movement Congress unanimously resolved to urge the government to incorporate ethnic Chinese culture into the mainstream of our national culture and to oppose firmly the extension of the New Economic Policy.

In addition, the congress also called on the Youth Solidarity Movement [YSM] head office to establish speedily a YSM Academy to provide ethnic Chinese youngsters with an opportunity to further their studies.

Delegates to the conference today converged from all over the country to the Federal Hotel in Kuala Lumpur to attend the annual assembly to deliberate on cultural, educational, economic and political issues.

The congress unanimously adopted the following resolutions:

Culture:

1. Appeal to the government to incorporate ethnic Chinese culture into the nation's cultural mainstream in order to mold a universally accepted national culture;
2. Appeal to all Chinese organizations and youth groups actively to promote and disseminate the outstanding aspects of Chinese culture and to reform the outdated aspects of Chinese culture and habits;
3. Urge the Information Ministry to increase the Chinese programs in radio and television stations.

Education:

1. Urge the government to incorporate Chinese-language classes in primary and middle schools into the regular curriculum and to increase the subsidy for Chinese-language teachers;
2. Urge the authorities of the University of Malaya to accept all its Chinese Language Department graduates for admission into its Education Department, in

in order to solve the problem of the shortage of qualified and experienced Chinese-language teachers;

3. Appeal to the Chinese community to set up a scholarship at the Chinese Language Department of the University of Malaya by way of encouraging Chinese students to major in the Chinese language;

4. Appeal to the YSM head office to establish speedily a YSM Academy, so that Chinese students may have an opportunity to further their studies.

Economy:

1. Call on the government to appropriate financial aid to youth organizations of various nationalities in a fair manner;

2. Call on the government, in carrying out its "privatization" policy, to guarantee the opportunity for the Chinese circles to have overall and full participation;

3. Firmly oppose the extension of the New Economic Policy beyond the 1990 deadline;

4. Urge the government to divulge speedily the truth of the Bumiputra Malaysia Finance scandal and to appoint representatives of youth organizations to be included as members of the Commission of Inquiry.

Politics:

1. Urge the Elections Commission to review its unfair proposal for the reapportionment in 1984 of national and state electoral districts;

2. Appeal to the Chinese organizations to make an in-depth study of the serious problem of the declining birth rate of the ethnic Chinese population, and of the positive and negative aspects of family planning.

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CSO: 4205/45

COMMITTEE FORMED TO INVESTIGATE BMF AFFAIR

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 13 Jan 84 p 2

[Commentary by Lan Yu [3488 4556]: "Bumiputra Malaysian Finance Affair Investigating Committee"]

[Text] With regard to the affair involving the Hong Kong Branch of Bumiputra Malaysian Finance, which has received not only the concern of financial and banking circles but also the close attention of some city residents; after the past several months of public opinion, and after careful consideration by the authorities, Prime Minister Dr Mahathir yesterday finally announced to the press the formation of an investigating committee to investigate the true facts of the huge sums lent by that company.

That three-man investigating committee chaired by Tan Sri (Li Ho Wei Mo Ting), according to the Prime Minister's announcement, includes Tan Sri (Li Ho Wei Mo Ting), the Auditor General (Gu Dong Lan Ki Yi Bu), of the Bimawei accounting firm, and lawyer Hsu Wen Shao. Those three specialists are completely independent. They have absolutely no ties to the Bumiputra Malaysian Finance Company. Even more important, the investigating committee includes an auditor, an accountant, and a lawyer. Therefore, it should be acceptable to all parties.

As for the large sums lent by the Hong Kong branch of the Bumiputra Malaysian Finance Company to the Carrian Corp, to Ch'en Si Cheng's company, and to the Eda Investments Company, although they did not equal the originally stated 4 billion or 2 billion U.S. dollars, a total of 1 billion U.S. dollars were lent out.

That accurate figure was made public by the special investigating committee. In a word, we feel that no matter how much the sum was, it involved funds belonging to the state and to the people. No matter what the source of the funds, any loans should be clearly explained to the public to avoid affecting our country's reputation. Furthermore, the people involved in the affair, whether because of administrative neglect or acts of greed, at some time or another must be dealt with justly by the authorities, once there is full documentary evidence, depending on the severity of the crimes committed by each person. There absolutely must be no favoritism or giving wrongdoers a way out. Otherwise, it will be very difficult to set a good moral example.

With regard to that point, we also recognize that no matter whether they have already resigned or are still employed, all people implicated in that loan affair should be dealt with with equal fairness. People should not be allowed to get off scot free because they have resigned. If there is such a precedent, in the future all people who commit crimes will resign, which will administratively result in many evil consequences.

The authorities are preparing to draft a white paper of the relevant investigatory findings for submission to Parliament and will make them public in order to inform the people. As for whether or not they should be debated by Parliament, a decision will be made at the appointed time.

Undoubtedly, the scope of that investigatory white paper is relatively extensive and involves people and facts as well as banking laws and practices. It is most important, of course, to preserve the bank's secrecy. The confidentiality of all reports and documents must be maintained, especially with regard to the obligation toward customers, for otherwise the public will lose confidence in the banks and the reputation of our country's banking and financial circles will be affected. However, if merely for such reasons the enquiries in the white paper are not thorough and prevent the public from ever obtaining clear answers, we believe that the real objective for setting up the investigating committee will not have been met. Therefore, so that the investigating committee can fulfill its proper function, the investigating committee's white paper might as well, under certain conditions, be submitted to Parliament for debate.

The Prime Minister decided that so the investigating committee can have ample time to carry out its investigatory work the authorities should not set a deadline for it to complete its work. The investigation is difficult and important people are involved, so if it carries out its work carelessly it may produce an imperfect white paper. But allowing the investigating committee unlimited time in which to do its work will do more harm than good and the investigation could be stretched out 3 years, 5 years, or 10 years, to the extent that it could become a suspended sentence. Therefore, to prevent public figures from working without a time limit, it seems necessary for the authorities to stipulate a deadline.

5616

CSO: 4205/40

LION DANCE WILL PERMANENTLY EXIST IF CHINESE WANT IT: KIM SAI

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 24 Jan 84 p 23

[Text] Datuk Lee Kim Sai, chairman of the National Youth MCA [Malaysian Chinese Association], said that as long as the Chinese ardently love the lion dance, this fine, age-old Chinese cultural activity will permanently exist in our land. He also stressed that the National Front government has no intention of restricting the free promotion and development of other national cultures in Malaysia.

He made this remark in a speech at the opening ceremony of the Second Mohammad Cup Ping-pong Tournament held in the auditorium of a local Indian temple, while commenting on recent government restrictions against certain lion dance performances ushering in the Chinese New Year.

Datuk Lee, who is a deputy minister in the Prime Minister's Department, said: "On 19 January major Chinese newspapers throughout our country played up news stories saying that beginning this year, police authorities will no longer issue permits to political party-organized lion dance groups to stage public performances at all places during the Lunar New Year period or allow school-age children to take an active part in the street shows. In reality, the lion dance is a fine Chinese tradition, and it adds color and brings luck as it moves along from house to house during the 'Spring Festival.'

"The police restrictions merely concerned lion dance troupes in which school-age children participated. Unfortunately, this was misconstrued by the Chinese press as a blanket prohibition against lion dance performances which are organized by political parties. This year the police will continue to issue permits for Lunar New Year lion dance shows on the basis of past conditions and regulations without any new restriction."

Datuk Lee appealed to all Chinese lion dance organizations not to worry over this matter, adding that MCA's youth wing remains uncompromising as always in fighting for the legitimate interests of the Chinese in all fields. He said that if the Chinese people still love their own culture, the National Front government will not hinder its progress.

In conclusion, Datuk Lee said: "The National Youth MCA will relentlessly struggle for the political rights of the Chinese people, including the inclusion of the lion dance into the nation's cultural mainstream." He disclosed that the chief minister of Selangor state recently made field trips to areas under his jurisdiction and that he would appropriate funds for local development purposes. Datuk Lee also officiated at the "dotting the eye" ceremony of a lion dance group of the local MCA branch.

9300

CS0: 4204/46

LEONG WARNS AGAINST LONG-RANGE DISADVANTAGE OF SKYROCKETING PALM OIL PRICE

Remarks at Exhibit

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 24 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] Datuk Leong Khee Siong, minister of primary industries, today reminded palm oil circles to watch cautiously the current skyrocketing palm oil price. He said that if it breaks away from the normal price structure of other edible oils and fats, it will bring a long-range disadvantage to the Malaysian palm oil industry.

Datuk Leong was officiating at the opening ceremony of an "International Forum and Exhibition on the Market Development of Palm Oil Products."

He appealed to palm oil circles to strengthen and expand the existing market by adopting a more aggressive, strategic and enduring market offensive and at the same time to advance and explore new markets in a systematic manner.

He guaranteed that the Malaysian Palm Oil Research Institute will intensify its research and development activities as well as seek new uses. Simultaneously, the government will do its utmost in reducing or getting rid of taxes and of nontax barriers in the international market. "We will continue to strive for the reduction of tax barriers imposed by the Common Market against refined palm oil."

The minister stressed that in order to compete with other vegetable oils the price of our palm oil must be made more competitive and its quality standardized for greater dependability.

He expressed hope that the palm oil entrepreneurs would improve their productive power and quality and lower their cost of production in order to achieve Malaysia's goals.

He said that the palm oil industry should also pool its resources and seek new ways in order to overcome its shortcomings and strengthen its marketing force.

Datuk Leong Khee Siong said that the time has come for the palm oil industry to incorporate navigation as one of its indispensable marketing-promoting activities. "This will place the industry in a better competitive position with respect to transportation cost, destination and pricing," he explained.

The minister also indicated that it may be necessary for the government to examine certain facilities and incentives for the palm oil industry, to be compared with credit terms obtained for soybean and rapeseed exports.

"On the basis of this comparison, the government will study whether these facilities and incentives can be improved for the purpose of strengthening our palm oil's competitiveness," he said.

About 210 delegates from 15 foreign countries attended this forum.

Datuk Leong said that our palm oil marketing strategy should be expanded and become global in scope, and not partial or excessively restricted to a region as it is today. We must put equal stress in this strategy on both the existing and new markets, and in acquiring new markets, we must not neglect the existing markets.

Paper's Comment

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 25 Jan 84 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text] Speaking at the opening of the International Forum on the Market Development of Palm Oil Products, Datuk Leong Khee Siong, minister of primary products, said that our palm oil industry has made rapid progress. Last year, palm oil products brought in revenues totaling M\$3.83 billion, again exceeding our rubber revenue and becoming our third largest income from our exports. As regards world oils and fats markets, our products have entered the European Economic Community, beating America and Brazil to become the world's largest vegetable oil exporting country.

During the 1960's, our natural rubber, challenged by synthetic rubber, suffered successive defeats in prices, so we changed our strategy by strenuously developing our palm oil industry. Within a short period of 20 years, our annual palm oil production has reached 3 million metric tons, representing 60 percent of the world's total production. This is an achievement that commands great attention indeed.

However, at a time when the palm oil industry is ascending toward another peak, it behooves us to "be prepared for danger in times of peace" and calmly study a number of problems facing our palm oil industry.

First of all, in recent years, the palm oil price in international markets has fluctuated tremendously. For instance, during the first half of 1982,

its top price was M\$950, but the price dropped by M\$250 in the second half of the year. During the first 6 months of 1983, the price hovered around M\$750, but beginning August 1983, it soared steeply, reaching more than M\$1,400 by December. As we entered this new year, the palm oil price broke through the M\$1,500 mark, an unprecedented level.

Viewed from the short range, with the steep increase in price, our country will gain large amounts of foreign exchange in its position as the world's largest palm oil producer. In the long run, however, palm oil's extremely high price weakens its competitiveness in the international edible oils market. This is a latent danger which eventually may produce ill effects on the development of our palm oil industry.

In international markets, palm oil's main rivals are soybean oil, rape oil and coconut oil. During the latter half of 1982, the price of palm oil dropped markedly because of the bumper soybean harvest in the United States. In contrast, its price rose steeply in the second half of 1983 because of droughts and hurricanes occurring in the Philippines and the United States as well as the big drop in coconut oil and soybean oil production.

Thus it may be seen that, like tin ore and rubber, the price fluctuation of palm oil is beyond the control of Malaysia itself, in spite of its position as the world's major producer.

Under such a situation, Minister Leong Khee Siong's advice to our palm oil industrialists deserves scrutiny and study. We can of course strengthen our palm oil's competitiveness by enhancing the quality of our production and developing its new uses. However, more significantly, we must maintain the palm oil's price at a level which is more attractive than that of other oils, otherwise we would not be able to promote palm oil consumption.

According to estimates, the world's demand for oils and fats will increase to 19,450,000 tons by 1992. This figure shows that our palm oil industry has a bright future. The problem is merely how to beat the competition of other oils and wrest new markets.

9300

CSO: 4205/46

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR MALAYSIAN CHINESE DECLINE

Detailed Report

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 27 Jan 84 p 1

/Text/ Employment opportunities for Malaysian Chinese have dropped by one percent in the past decade, information gathered by this paper indicates.

In contrast, it rose by two percent and one percent for Malays and Indians, respectively, during the same period.

The source reveals that among overall job opportunities, the Chinese occupy 35 percent, the Malays 54 percent, the Indians 11 percent and others 1 percent.

Job opportunities in various fields of work, however, show an obvious increase in the percentage held by Malays and a drop in the percentage held by Chinese and Indians. Especially in the service domain, the percentage held by the Chinese dropped by 10 percent from 39 percent in 1970 to 29 percent in 1980. For the Malays, however, the percentage increased from 46 percent to 59 percent during the 10-year period; for the Indians, the figure dropped from 13 percent to 12 percent.

In the field of secretarial work, the jobs held by Chinese declined by 9 percent (39 percent for 1980), those held by Malays increased by 14 percent (reaching 50 percent) and those held by Indians dropped by 5 percent (to 10 percent).

In specialized and technical fields, jobs held by Chinese dropped by 5 percent (to 34 percent), those held by Malays increased by 9 percent (reaching 53 percent) and those held by Indians dropped by 3 percent (to 10 percent).

The source pointed out that these job opportunity changes are attributed to the execution of the government's New Economic Policy /NEP/. Another factor is the decline in the ethnic Chinese population.

Since the NEP was put into practice in 1971, the source stressed, the government has hired more Malays and other bumiputras in various fields of work, particularly for high-level posts, in order to reflect the ratios of various nationalities that make up Malaysia's population.

Moreover, to attain the goal of reorganization, the government has intensified the training of personnel and directly encouraged them to take part in contemporary jobs through a proper educational and training program.

In 1981 and 1982, the Labor Ministry launched a training and personnel development program in an effort to reorganize employment opportunities. To promote this plan, Labor Ministry officials inspected a total of 26,038 and 29,179 companies in 1981 and 1982, respectively, with the view to encouraging private business circles to revise racial ratios in various fields of employment.

The source said that a number of private enterprises have begun this reorganization movement to coincide with the NEP.

At the same time, public enterprises are also promoting their respective training programs and aiding Malay executives in the management and technical fields.

However, at a time when all nationalities are reorganizing job opportunities, the authorities have learned from qualified sources that membership in professional associations is made up mainly of Chinese elements, up to 63.7 percent, while Malay and Indian members comprise 17.6 percent and 15.6 percent, respectively.

SIN CHEW's Comment

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chiense 28 Jan 84 p 2

/Editorial/

/Text/ Statistics on our country's employment situation show that during the past 10 years, overall job opportunities for ethnic Chinese living in peninsular Malaysia dropped by one percent. By comparison, the opportunities for the Malays and Indians increased by two percent and one percent, respectively.

The figures indicate that in overall job opportunities, the Chinese occupied 35 percent, the Malays 54 percent and the Indians 11 percent, while other nationals occupied 1 percent.

The 1980 census reveals that the population ratio in the peninsula is: Malays 55.3 percent, Chinese 33.8 percent and Indians 10.2 percent. As the situation stands, it may be said that the job opportunities shared by various races correctly reflect the racial composition in the Malaysian peninsula.

However, if this trend is continued, it is possible that a worrisome situation will develop within the coming scores of years.

Analyzing the available material further, we can discover that the changes in job opportunities for various nationalities are not without reason. Two points brought up in the said material are: 1. the execution of our New Economic Policy /NEP/ and 2. the decline in the population growth of the Chinese people. This is an argument that carried conviction.

The NEP's two major goals are the eradication of poverty and the restructuring of our society. On these two points the government has clearly achieved commendable results. Not long ago, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam, quoting the survey figures, pointed out that since the NEP was put into practice in 1970, the average real monthly income of a Malay household increased by 1.8 times in 1979. He also pointed out that the bumiputras of today not only have scored successes in the share holdings of plantations, mining industry and banking but have become more and more active in participating in economic activities in many big cities.

In such circumstances, it comes as no surprise that the percentage of jobs held by the Chinese in the fields of service work, secretarial and clerical work and even professional and technical work has been on the decline.

The main spirit of our NEP is to restructure our society and wipe out poverty by expanding our economic pie. This spirit coincides neatly with our country's multiracial characteristics. Therefore, the NEP has won the support of the general public since its inception.

What should be pointed out is that according to the NEP, the bumiputras are targeted to hold 30 percent of shareholding rights, while the Chinese may hold 40 percent of such rights. Therefore, if employment opportunities for the Chinese continue to show a downward trend after the society has been reorganized, this may mean that Chinese have not exerted enough effort to share the nation's economic pie.

It cannot be denied that in hiring new talents, some service departments still cannot fully reflect our country's racial composition. This is an administrative deviation that evidently requires correction. In the army or police, however, the proportion of Chinese members is minuscule--probably in conformity with the Chinese tradition that "a gentleman doesn't join the army."

How to guarantee that the Chinese get equal job opportunities is a problem that deserves the attention of Chinese society.

9300

CSO: 4205/47

EXODUS OF STUDENTS TO FOREIGN SCHOOLS DECRIED

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 28 Jan 84 p 2

/Commentary/

/Text/ It is common for a student who has completed senior high school to go abroad for further studies. However, if parents send their children abroad to get a primary education, that is a problem that deserves serious study.

Some people in academic circles have pointed out that many parents have sent their children to Singapore to enter middle schools or even grade schools there. This is really a shame to our educators. We should pay attention to this phenomenon and re-examine our education system.

We must first of all find out why a number of parents have sent their children to Singapore.

Available reports show that the education policy of the Singapore Government emphasizes outstanding students. For example, several Malaysian students who score superior scholastic records in Singapore middle schools may win an annual scholarship amounting to S\$3,000 and continue in the university after completing their high school education. If they do well at college, the government can arrange a job at one of its departments or help line up work in a private business after graduation.

It has been the policy of the Singapore Government to absorb as many talented intellectuals as possible, irrespective of nationality, to be coordinated with its national development. Furthermore, these intellectuals are given the option of becoming Singapore citizens. Based on these reasons, many of our parents have sent their children to Singapore for schooling, even starting from grade school.

Another reason is that this exodus may have some connection with our educational system.

From the colonial period up to our independence and afterward, our secondary education was classified into three types: English school, Chinese school and Malay school. Today the English school exists in name only, the Chinese school is involved in a life and death struggle and the major remaining system is the comprehensive middle school.

The medium of teaching is a comprehensive middle school that is principally Malay. If its students wish to continue with their studies after graduation, they can only set their eyes on local universities. However, the quota for entering college students each year is limited, and many parents do not want their children to lose the opportunity of getting a college education. Therefore, they can only start sending their children to other countries from the elementary school level, with the hope that they can study all the way up to the university level and then either come home or get a job there after completing their higher education.

According to reports, already since 1960 many Malaysian students have been studying abroad starting from grade school, particularly to Singapore, England, Australia and Canada. Although it has paid attention to this problem, the government has never studied its impact.

Outwardly, when parents send their children abroad for study, they are spending their own money for tuition, boarding and other expenses. In reality, this causes our country to lose large amounts of foreign exchange every year, and worse still, our outstanding talents are eventually absorbed by the countries concerned. So, besides losing money, we lose our talented people, too. Ours is a developing country, and we still need a large number of talents in all fields. To avert these losses, the government must re-examine our education system.

9300

CSO: 4205/47

LIM KIT SIANG CALLS FOR FORMING PARLIAMENT TEAM TO STUDY REDISTRICTING

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 31 Jan 84 p 2

/Text/ Lim Kit Siang, parliamentary opposition leader and currently the secretary general of the Democratic Action Party /DAP/, today wrote a circular addressed to all members of Parliament, proposing the formation of a 1984 parliamentary electoral district apportionment committee in order to study and understand the redistricting concerned.

The rationale for his proposal is that the final decision and responsibility for the redistricting as recommended by the Elections Commission rest with Parliament.

He hoped that the Malaysian Chinese Association's /MCA/ and DAP's ministers, deputy ministers, administrative vice ministers and members of Parliament have the courage to sit together with the DAP to discuss and draw up a parliamentary strategy to rectify the political imbalance and revive the important "one man, one vote" principle, so that parliamentary democracy will carry more meaning in Malaysia.

Lim Kit Siang, MP for Kota Melaka, made the aforementioned remarks at a new conference held at his party headquarters this morning.

In his circular distributed among all members of Parliament, Mr Lim pointed out that the Elections Commission has reapportioned electoral districts in accordance with Art 113 (2) and Appendix 13 of our constitution.

According to pars 9 through 13 of the said appendix, the commission's recommendation needs the approval of Parliament, which has the right to reject or amend it.

Inasmuch as the final decision rests with Parliament, and not with the commission, all members of Parliament have a grave responsibility.

Mr Lim's letter stressed that if the members prefer to let our Parliament become a rubber-stamp House of Representatives and pass the Elections Commission's redistricting plan without serious study, then our reputation will vanish into thin air in due course.

Based on this reasoning, Lim called for the formation of a parliamentary ad hoc committee to study the problem thoroughly before deliberating on the parliamentary and state assembly electoral district reapportionment for a decision on it one way or the other.

If deemed necessary, the committee will make revisions, if the Elections Commission's recommendation turns out to have violated the "one man, one vote" principle or worsened the political inequilibrium or violated other important democratic principles.

Although the committee's formation is suggested on his initiative, Mr Lim said its membership should be open to all parliamentarians, irrespective of party affiliation, and those interested in taking part should decide on the committee's terms of reference and responsibilities.

Mr Lim's letter also requested the recipients to give a reply within 2 weeks. The parliamentary ad hoc committee will be declared formally formed after its initial meeting. Recipients of his circular included all members of Parliament, the prime minister, deputy prime minister and administrative vice ministers.

He expressed hope that the ministers and deputy ministers sitting in the cabinet representing the MCA and DAP have the guts to sit at a table together with the DAP to map out a parliamentary strategy to correct the political imbalance and revive the "one man, one vote" principle, so that Malaysia's parliamentary democracy will be more meaningful.

Lim Kit Siang also suggested that the first ad hoc committee meeting be held after the Lunar Lantern Festival, as there are many onerous tasks to be carried out.

9300

CSO: 4205/47

PHOTOGRAPH PROMPTS SPECULATION ON PRESIDENT'S HEALTH

Quezon City VERITAS in English 8-14 Apr 84 p 2

[Text] THE rumors about President Marcos' deteriorating health appeared to have died down after numerous personal appearances apparently designed to quell them. But a recently published color photograph of the President revived those rumors once more.

First published by the Tokyo magazine Focus (March 30), the photograph showed what looked like blood on the president's sleeve while he was attending the independence celebration rites in Brunei, February 23. The same photo was picked up by the local weekly tabloid Philippine Signs.

Despite past denials from the government, rumors persist about Marcos' continued dialysis treatment for a serious kidney ailment. The photograph raised general speculations that harbored around the possibility of those dialysis veins bursting.

The accompanying article in Focus quoted "unidentified informed sources in Manila" as saying that the blood came from a tube inserted in Marcos' arm for dialysis purposes. It added that Marcos "looked pale and exhausted" during the three-hour ceremony. He stayed until the end but, the article continued, had to be carried away "in the arms of his aides."

Another observer, photographer Dirck Halstead, told the Associated Press in New York: "I saw Marcos arrive at the reviewing stand at the parade for independence day. He was looking very ill. He had to be helped up the four steps and he tripped twice. His aides had to keep him upright."

Halstead covered the celebrations for the Paris-based Gamma Photographic Agency. The agency received the said photograph from a Western photographer who insisted on anonymity for fear of political repercussions. "He wants to go back to the Philippines," Halstead explained.

CSO: 4200/670

VERITAS COMMENTARIES ANALYZE, DEFEND OPPOSITION DICHOTOMY

Boycott Movement Upswing

Quezon City VERITAS in English 8-14 Apr 84 p 2

[Article by Patricia Adversario and Gigi Oyog]

[Text] THERE was no lure of cash rewards. Yet thousands of would-be boycotters registered at the People's Boycott Centers scattered all over Metro Manila in the last two weekends.

Initial fears that registrants would be few were dispelled when people kept coming in, especially in the last few hours.

Returns from only 19 out of 50 PBC's in Metro Manila showed a turn-out of 8,667 registrants. Although organizers are still awaiting the returns from 31 PBCs in Metro Manila, 13 in Camarines Sur, 13 in Cebu City, eight in Naga City, and six in Cebu City, registration in centers was "expected to have similar heavy turnouts."

A spokesman of the PBC in Ateneo de Manila University said that they are "actually de-emphasizing the number of registrants. Rather, they wanted the PBCs to serve as fora for discussing the issues, an alternative to the Marcos polls, and even as outlets for the people's grievances.

THE PBC at the University of the Philippines, for instance, sponsored a "Guess-who-is-the-tuta" caricature contest and posted the lyrics of the Inang Laya's boycott songs. It also had a "Freedom Wall" where registrants were urged to write short-quipps on the elections.

Even unlikely registrants showed up in some PBCs. NAMFREL volunteers who were assigned to watch the Marcos polls in Makati reportedly left the precincts in disgust and registered instead at the PBC in San Lorenzo Village. In a similar event, policemen registered at a PBC in Tondo and in Marikina.

One of them said "Alam kong delikado ito. Pero sumusunod lang ako sa konsiyensiya ko."

At St. Joseph's College, a separate boycott center was set up specially for the youth. However, Chino Roces said that "only the old and not the young, be allowed to sacrifice for the country." Roces was turned down politely when Gaby Lapuz from the Youth Boycott Center retorted "That's unfair. We believe the kids also have some things to say."

Election Participation Goals Clarified

Quezon City VERITAS in English 8-14 Apr 84 pp 4, 6

[Commentary by Bren Z. Guiao: "Fighting the Common Enemy"]

[Text]

RECENTLY, the people of Mabalacat, Pampanga noticed a group of men putting up boycott posters all over their marketplace. To their surprise, they found out later that the men were members of the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL).

In Pampanga, as well as in other places of the country, many think that the Opposition is unbeatable in a relatively clean and honest election. Even if five to ten per cent of the voters boycott the polls — and these five to ten per cent are Opposition votes — the candidates of "Laban ni Ninoy sa Central Luzon" are still expected to win by a big majority, their argument goes.

As the May election approaches, it is predicted that the struggle between the Pampanga KBL and Opposition will intensify but the balance of forces will hardly be affected by the boycott movement. The popularity of the Opposition's cause, boosted by the martyrdom of Ninoy Aquino who was from Central Luzon, is too strong to be overcome in a clean election — thus it is held that every voter who decides to boycott the election is a lost vote for the Opposition.

This is expected to become evident in the last few days of the campaign. In the homestretch, the more people boycott the election, the more votes will be taken away from the Opposition.

Fortunately (in all modesty), insofar as Pampanga is concerned the impact of the boycott movement can be absorbed by Opposition candidates without suffering considerable damage. To the credit of the leaders of the boycott movement in the area, they express sympathy, one way or the other, with those who are for participation. The danger lies in the use of terrorism and massive electoral frauds.

What about in other provinces where the Opposition is not so strong as in Pampanga? The KBL men in these provinces can just fan the fires of the boycott movement and succeed in getting voters favoring Opposition candidates to boycott the election.

We might as well be reminded that the boycott

movement will hurt not the KBL but the Opposition. Thus it is imperative that those who advocate participation and those who believe in boycott keep open the channel of communication between them. Only the KBL can benefit from the spectacle of two camps in the Opposition hurting each other.

In the event that those for boycott and those for participation cannot reach an agreement, the least they can do is to disagree without being disagreeable. What unites the Opposition — the struggle to restore justice, democracy and freedom in our country — is much more important than what divides it.

It is in this spirit that we, who are for participation, wish to discuss the issue with those who are for boycott. It is in the spirit of goodwill and understanding that we want to have an exchange of views on this issue.

What, then, is the crux of the matter between boycott and participation? To my mind, it can be summed up in one word: reality. But what really are the facts?

First, we in the Opposition can debate among ourselves on such issues as "legitimacy" and credibility of the Marcos government's electoral exercise, among others. Those who are for boycott say that participation means recognizing the legitimacy of the Marcos government and giving it credibility in the eyes of Americans and other foreign creditors. Many people are willing to concede the validity of this reasoning.

But, it may be argued, the advocates of the boycott movement pay their taxes to the government every year. By their own action, they recognize the legitimacy and authority of the Marcos government each time they fill out income tax forms. In the process, they are supporting the Marcos government, perhaps even more strongly than those who are advocating participation in the coming election.

Second, the overwhelming majority of the Filipino people already faced the issue of boycotting the election in June 1981 when Marcos ran for

reelection against the late Alejo Santos. What happened? A boycott, by its very nature, can succeed only if there is an overwhelming public support. Even if a boycott, in concept and rationale, is the correct position, we must consider another element: popular support. The Gandhi civil disobedience movement succeeded, at least for a while, in India; but it did not succeed in Venezuela, Germany or Timbuktu.

I would be the first to advocate a boycott if there is a foreseeable chance that it has massive support or that it may succeed. Besides, the question the advocates of boycott should answer is: After the boycott, what?

The boycott movement may have strong adherents at the Ugarte field but not so much elsewhere. In the Visayas, Mindanao, the Bicol region, Southern Tagalog, Central Luzon, Northern Luzon, the boycott movement is marginal in strength. All over the country, there are many more Opposition leaders, especially from the barrios, who are for participation than those for boycott. Barrio leaders say that it is not easy to explain the boycott to the peasants because they have always considered voting as their duty and obligation and an opportunity for them to vote against the candidates they dislike.

President Marcos contends that this administration has the support of the great majority of the Filipino people, pointing to the results of referenda and elections endorsing the martial law government. What should be mentioned here is that he has all the resources needed to win an election, not to mention vote-buying, terrorism and cheating.

Mr. Marcos and the KBL may be able to convince foreign observers for a while that elections in the Philippines are clean and honest, but if we keep on fighting, if we keep on making things difficult for the present regime, if we keep forcing it to spend, cheat and terrorize each time there is an election, the time will finally come when the whole world will realize that elections here are a great hoax.

This is the lesson we learned in the 1978 election for the interim Batasang Pambansa. If Ninoy did not run and did not field a strong ticket, the powers-that-be would not have been forced to cheat openly, making that electoral exercise self-defeating.

A FEW more elections where the government is forced to resort to desperate measures to survive, and its illegitimacy will become clearer to all. To paraphrase Lincoln, you can fool some of the people in a few elections, or all of the people in some elections, but you cannot

fool all the people in all elections.

The government and the KBL will, sooner or later, election after election, be pushed against the wall if the candidates pitted against them are true Opposition candidates and not just token aspirants put up by the Marcos administration itself. This is the strongest argument for the Opposition to use its efforts and resources, instead of engaging in a boycott that has little chance of succeeding in activities that will do more damage to the present leadership. For every peso that the Opposition will spend in the coming election, the administration candidates will have to spend P100. If Mr. Marcos and the KBL would only have their way, they would field fake Opposition candidates. Only true oppositionists will make victory for the administration more difficult and more expensive and in the long run, more dangerous to its continued stay in power.

Least might be misunderstood, we who are for participation in the election do not expect that we can unseat the Marcos cohorts in one fell swoop. We realize that there is still a long road ahead for the Opposition — a road that in the beginning may be fraught with dangers, frustrations and defeats — but we have faith that we will not fail in the long run because our struggle is the articulation of the hopes and dreams of the people who have long suffered under authoritarianism.

Today, the Opposition can score a moral victory once again particularly when we consider that the people have come to appreciate the meaning of Ninoy's supreme sacrifice.

The issue — boycott versus participation — is an emotional one. It can divide families, friends, and parties. On deeper reflection, however, both sides are actually strands of the same string. If the issue has become intense and emotional, it should not be seen as a cause for alarm but a sign of how deeply they feel against the present regime which, for two decades now, has repressed and oppressed our nation.

The disagreement within the Opposition camp is also a healthy sign because it proves that there is freedom of ideas in its ranks. From this divergence of opinion and the ventilation and discussion of various ideas, the Opposition can create a stronger, more potent movement. Both sides have valid arguments. There are good reasons for boycott as well as for participation. If we can survive our present differences with grace and civility, conceding each other's sincerity and noble motives, we will be much stronger in the future. The thin line that divides boycott and participation is actually a sign of our strength and not of our weakness.

Benefits of Pluralism Viewed

Quezon City VERITAS in English 8-14 Apr 84 p 5

[Commentary by Melinda Quintos de Jesus in "The Human Factor" column: "Strength in Diversity"]

[Text]

IT is not a divided opposition but a divergent one.

Perhaps the statement is not all semantic nitpicking. The opposition to Marcos is indeed multifaceted, embracing a wide range of social and economic strata, engulfed by the streams of various ideologies. And the pluralism of the anti-Marcos movement may yet prove to be the source of its resilience.

It is urgent for the opposition to gain a new perspective on the boycott-participation issue and to understand its meaning in the context of the strategies that go beyond the elections in May.

I spoke to political scientist Jose Abueva after he had addressed and listened to a boycott-participation debate and forum, and he shared with us some of his conclusions about the current phenomenon. His reading might help to convince the proponents of both sides of the electoral issue that they should not close the doors against those who now differ from them and that unity is necessary for the long- and the short-term purposes of the opposition: dismantling the dictatorship and rebuilding democracy. Abueva's views may be summed up as follows:

The split in the opposition is seen as a weakness that benefits Marcos and the KBL. At the same time however, the split is a sign of strength of an opposition that is freely and vigorously exercising its democratic principles even as it opposes the Marcos regime. KBL's unity, on the other hand, is founded on obedience, subservience to and fear of Marcos as well as the collective defensiveness for their responsibility for the national crisis. Although they differ in their approaches and methods, the opposition groups share the

common goal of dismantling the Marcos authoritarian system and of rebuilding democratic institutions.

The boycott and participation groups are both active participants in these dual process. The boycott proponents emphasize the continuous denial of the legitimacy of Marcos and his authoritarian institutions. They reject the existing structures, working for their abolition by amounting pressure politics and civil disobedience through people power and people's movements.

While some participation groups also believe in these tactics, all are willing to challenge the Marcos regime through the electoral and parliamentary process and by reforming the system from within. They would attempt to rectify the legislative body, the judiciary, and all those institutions necessary in any political system.

Participation and boycott groups should get together after the elections. They are complementary in the light of these goals. But in working out alternative political structures, in creating or rebuilding new institutions, they must demonstrate the process itself as non-violent and democratic.

Thus, the willingness of the two sides to integrate their efforts in the post-election period would indicate the making of a truly new political paradigm, one that would allow for genuine pluralism, for autonomous people-centered institutions. But if these sides hold out against each other, it will only mean more of the same struggle, even after Marcos. In the new alignment of forces, the people will still be the losers, because those who gain power, like Marcos, will want to keep it only for themselves.

CSO: 4200/670

DIOKNO DISCUSSES NATIONALISM, BOYCOTT, SOCIALISM

Quezon City VERITAS in English 8-14 Apr 84 p 8

[Jose W. Diokno by Rina Jimenez David: "True Freedom Must Be Won Swiftly and Decisively"]

[Text]

IN 1968, years before "the U.S.-Marcos dictatorship" became standard phrase at rallies and demos, then Senator Jose W. Diokno wrote:

"If the US runs counter to the force of Philippine nationalism, it will succeed only in convincing all Philippine nationalists, as some are now convinced, that there is no point in attempting any rational dialogue with the US.

"If, in the days to come, the US government persists in the same course, Philippine nationalism will come to believe that it is truly the US that is its major enemy."

Such writings convinced many Senate observers that while it was Senator Lorenzo Tañada who had been the closest associate of Sen. Claro M. Recto, the quintessential Philippine nationalist, it was Diokno who had, by dint of his untiring efforts to promote a truly nationalist government policy, proven himself the heir to the Recto tradition.

It is a tradition marked not just by a refusal to kowtow to Big Brother, but also a willingness to rise above conventional party politics, to go beyond, even abandon, narrow party interests when the national interest so demands. This Diokno proved when he resigned his membership in the Nacionalista Party in 1971, in order to do battle with the NP titular

head, Ferdinand Marcos, over the President's suspension of the Writ of Habeas Corpus. A year later, Diokno found himself in solitary confinement, one of many victims of Martial Law.

Today, Jose W. Diokno is as much a maverick as ever. While many old-time politicians, especially the oppositionists, are now finding their political bearings in the present campaign for the Batasan, Diokno has chosen to exclude himself from the race. He is, in fact, one of the leading lights of the boycott movement, convinced not just that there can be no clean and free elections under Marcos, but that the people are tired of traditional politicians and do not want a return to pre-Martial Law politics.

But this man who admittedly did very well under the pre-Martial Law political system, is for boycotting the polls for a more fundamental reason. It is this: participation in the Batasan elections means giving in not only to Marcos, but to American interests as well.

Says he: "This is my perception of the American role, and I will try to be as objective and as fair as I can be. You will recall that everybody knew when Ninoy died that there would be elections in May. This was not hidden from anyone. Yet when Ninoy died, everybody united in a 'Resign

Marcos' Movement.

"Now this was extremely dangerous for the US. Because a 'Resign Marcos' Movement would have meant that all his agreements with the US would be subjected to a lot of scrutiny. So they came up with this idea of saying 'hold free and fair elections' and in effect threatened that if he (Marcos) did not, they would be withholding or changing aid. Now in effect this made the US government the *guarantor* of free and fair elections. And this is what emboldened a lot of traditional, basically traditional, politicians to participate in the coming elections. That sort of guarantee from Uncle Sam convinced many people to participate. . .

"That destroyed the unity behind the 'Resign Marcos' Movement because participation in the elections is, in effect, a reconciliation with Marcos. It is not the reconciliation we want, that is, a reconciliation within the different social sectors. It is a reconciliation between those who are out of power with those who are in power. And it is not reconciliation involving the people at all.

"The Americans want Marcos deodorized and legitimized, so that all of those agreements with him will no longer be questioned. They may still be scrutinized, but no one can now go back to the very beginning and say this was null and void from the very beginning. All that we can do now is renegotiate."

THERE has been no shift at all in American policy towards the Philippines, Diokno believes. "From at least as early as 1944 when it was already decided by the American government to grant our independence, or rather to recognize our independence, it was their policy to make sure that they controlled our government or that they could influence the elections so that our government would be one that they could, quote, rely on, unquote. I'm quoting from an official paper of the one of the best-known members of the American State Department

think-tank, George Kennon. He wrote a paper in 1948 where he spoke of America's policies in Asia and he pinpointed two countries as being critical to US interests, one of them is Japan and the other is the Philippines. He advocated a policy, which was even then being followed, that the US government should see to it that the government of these two countries would be one which they could either control or rely on. And that's not the kind of government that I as a Filipino would like to have in our country. I want to have a government that is responsible and responsive primarily and solely to the Filipino people. I don't want to have a government that favors any other country, whether it is America, Russia, Japan, China. I want a government that favors the people!"

It is Diokno's contention that so long as the American military bases are here, the Philippines will not be freed from American intervention. "That is a major reason why I want the bases out. As long as the bases are here, the Americans will feel they have an interest in intervening (in our affairs)."

A PART from his consistently nationalistic stance, Diokno made a name for himself in the Senate with his proven expertise in economic affairs. An assiduous researcher and author of vital economic reports to the Senate, Diokno authored a compilation of updated statistics on the Philippine economy that "goes a long way in tidying up economic thinking in the Congress," wrote Napoleon Rama of the *Free Press* when Diokno was chosen one of four outstanding senators in 1969.

A long-time fighter of big business, especially monopolies like the oil industry, Diokno advocates these days a shift from the present export-orientation of the economy, to one where production is geared primarily for the local market, and exports "will merely be the icing on the cake."

"Our basic economy is colonial," he declares, "it's a colonial economy where you produce for

the external market, and you import what you need for your internal market. And the export orientation methods which the World Bank and IMF has pushed and Marcos and Co. are accepting, has accentuated that colonial nature."

"Now I'm talking of turn-around in priorities," he clarifies, "I'm not talking of turn-around in the kind of system, from a capitalist to a socialist system. I'm not talking of that because I don't think a socialist system can be implanted into the economy overnight at once. What I'm thinking of is a greater mix of social policies in the basic capitalist system."

"You cannot make an omelet unless you break eggs," says Diokno. And to his thinking, the only way to establish a truly economically just system in the country, is for the rich to give up some of their wealth. "I think that big business and the rich are sensible enough to know that these things have to be done, and they have to make some sacrifices to achieve these things, and if they don't want to, they run the danger of losing everything. All that is necessary really right now is that they should contribute relatively more than the poor do, in the form of sacrifices and actual loss of potential income. I'm not even talking of loss of actual income, I'm only talking of loss of potential income. Instead of making more profits, they can still continue to make more or less the same profits they're making, the same income. . . But what would otherwise have gone to them in the course of many years, because money begets money, will not go to them anymore, but go towards improving the lot of the common man."

"If they're not willing to do this, then I'm afraid that they know that they run the risk of losing everything."

"I think it's only fair to ask them and persuade them that it's possible to limit their growth. In other words, I would like to have, first of all, a ceiling. So that, what

goes beyond the ceiling can be used to bring up the floor, so that everybody will have at least this floor. Now some will be higher, some lower, but there will be no one lower than the floor. Once the floor has been raised, then we can raise the ceiling again!

"It's not a question of saying that we want absolute equality, that's impossible, it's an idle dream. But we should all have relative equality in the sense that all our essential needs are met. That's not only fair, it's human."

"I don't think its human to have, for example, in Olongapo, people living not just in *barong-barongs* but in cardboard boxes! And then you go to these rich areas where you see all these huge houses where you can fit not just one family but an entire community. Now you tell me, is that just? I don't think that people should have that kind of disparity."

SUCH educational effort, he feels, works best in small assemblies, where people can dialogue with the resource person and clarify for themselves the issues and platforms of movements.

Already, his group, KAKBAY, has begun organizing *Pulong Bahays* or house meetings where neighbors can gather and discuss among themselves the issues of the day.

"In the boycott movement, what we are trying to do is create not only new leaders but a new breed of leaders. Our thinking was, those participating in the elections are only a new generation of the old breed of leaders, *yung parang* pre-Martial Law. These are leaders whose only training has been in the electoral process, so when the electoral process dies, as in a dictatorship, they don't know what to do. And it isn't their fault. It isn't that they don't have courage, it isn't that they don't have brains, it is simply that their whole experience has been in the elections and so, after that, beyond that, *wala na silang nalalaman*.

"We are not against elections,"

Diokno explains the boycott stand, "but we are against *this* election. We may decide to participate in '87. I'm not saying we will, but we may because then it would be worthwhile, even without conditions because we could be fighting for all the power which we will win back for the people.

"Now we are fighting over a doughnut. Where, no matter who wins, Marcos is going to get the meat and the people will be left with the hole.

"I was talking to some politicians today, and I said let's talk practicality, let's talk nuts and bolts. Let's not talk of morality, just nuts and bolts. If the boycott succeeds, we have a chance, that the US, the foreign creditors, the military and the cabinet members themselves will be the first to push Marcos into quitting, so we have one chance. No matter how slight, it's one chance. Now, if we fail, and that chance does not materialize, we still have 1987, but if we participate now, then we have given up this chance, no matter how slight, to get rid of Marcos before '87. And we are all banking, we would all be banking, on his possible death, which is never, never a rational thing to bank on."

PLANTERS AIR FURTHER DISSATISFACTION WITH SUGAR MONOPOLY

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 2 Apr 84 p 4

[Article by Edgar Cadagat]

[Text] BACOLOD CITY--A more to work towards the total dismantling of NASUTRA is shaping up among sugar planters, as Corazon Zayco, a top official of the New Alliance of Sugar Producers (NASP), articulated three demands during a symposium held at the La Salle High School pavilion, sponsored by the National Movement for Reforms in the Sugar Industry. It was attended by about 800 people.

Zayco said that in the light of the present crisis bedeviling the sugar industry the government should immediately liquidate planters' sugar, stop the importation of sugar and dismantle NASUTRA after 1984.

The NASP officials's statement came after a general alarm generated by NASUTRA's inability to issue negotiable stocks and warehouse receipts which they needed to sell their sugar to private traders.

Those who opted to sign the three-year contract with NASUTRA have not been paid their sugar.

Within the circle of independent planters' groups fears are rife of widespread labor unrest as planters would not be able to pay laborers and centrals their employees.

Several planters interviewed by this correspondent, have shown reactions bordering on the verge of desperation.

They fear that they will face the wrath of their workers once their funds dry out and no payment is made for wages.

Zayco lamented PHILSUCOM chairman Roberto S. Benedicto's seemingly vindictive move in suddenly acquiescing to "free enterprise" with accompanying constraints among which are taking them off from NASUTRA's four-year contract before it expired and cutting off financial sources unless they sign up another three year-contract with NASUTRA.

Although some sources in the anti-PHILSUCOM-NASUTRA planters' groups say Benedicto is punishing them for demanding an end to the monopoly, others say NASUTRA really has no available funds to pay them for their milled sugar.

These sources say NASUTRA has not been able to pay millions of dollars in loans it incurred from international lending institutions, the reason why it cannot now advance payments for planters' sugar.

In her short speech, Zayco theorized that they may have played into the hands of the government because it was ready to give up trading as the government has no more money. On the other hand, if this is the case, they should not dump us in the middle of the ocean, she said.

CSO: 4200/670

CEBU EDITORIAL SAYS SOCIETY RESPONSIBLE FOR GOVERNMENT

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 3 Apr 84 p 3

[Editorial: "We Get the Kind of Government We Deserve"]

[Text] A corrupt society can not rise above the pettiness of government, but it is a kind of government that society itself has put up, hence the problem presents a cycle of evil.

If we trace the quality of government we have at present, there is no one else to blame for such kind of government except society itself. We, the people, have helped a corrupt and an unwanted government.

Elections are the means for change but if the people can be corrupted by corrupt politicians and if they can be hoodwinked and become willing victims of maneuvers, then there is little hope things will get any better.

If the people suffer today and in the future, it's their own making. In the frustration of some hearts nursing a silent curse, it says: Well, it's hell of a society, of a people worth not dying for. If it's what they want, then let them go to hell. The people deserve the kind of government they do not do anything to change.

But if the people really want, they can do it. Someone said: If you can, then "can" it. It can be done if there's a will. What is needed is for the people to look for the men whose will to fight an unwanted regime is genuine, is intrinsic, is altruistic, sustaining and unwavering. This is the time to make the choice.

CSO: 4200/670

RETIRED GENERAL ALLEGES AFP ABUSE, MURDER

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 3 Apr 84 p 9

[Text] MANILA, Philippines (AP)--President Ferdinand E. Marcos' former air-force chief accused the military Friday of violating human rights and murdering civilians, and local government officials of ignoring these abuses.

Retired Maj. Gen. Rancudo said at a news conference he was preparing a letter to Marcos documenting at least 187 cases of human rights violations, including the killing by soldiers of a student they had picked up for questioning.

Rancudo gave no other details about the alleged abuses but said they all occurred over the last three years in his home province of Pampanga, north of Manila, and that officials there had chosen "to close their eyes and ears."

Rancudo, 66, was chief of the Philippine Air Force between 1972 and 1976. His name hit the papers last year when Philippine Constabulary troopers, armed with a court warrant, raided his house on charges he was maintaining an illegal gambling den.

He denied the charges at the press conference, saying they were trumped up. His lawyer, Juan David, said the charges were subsequently dropped.

Despite his charges, Rancudo said he considered the armed forces still an honorable organization but added he was unhappy about a "minority which has chosen to be the culprits."

Asked if he thought the military had a hand in the Aug. 21 assassination of opposition leader Benigno Aquino, Rancudo replied, "it is difficult for me to believe that a military man will go to that dastardly extent...it's shameful."

Aquino's family has accused the military of killing Aquino but the military has denied the charges saying he was killed by a communist agent.

CSO: 4200/670

STATEHOOD MOVEMENT SAID MAKING GAINS

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 4 Apr 84 pp 1, 4

[Text] The Philippine Statehood movement, while formerly a subject of ridicule, is now taken seriously by the people from all walks of life.

According to Gaudioso "Diox" Manliguez, a Federal Party official candidate for Cebu province, the statehood movement has now the support of both the eminent leaders and the silent majority of the people in the country. He said the only solution to the economic bankruptcy of the government and the massive poverty of the people is statehood of the United States of America.

Manliguez, who is a World War II veteran, told VISAYAN HERALD that the neglected Filipino veteran may also enjoy the privileges and benefits they are entitled once the Philippines becomes the 51st state of America. He urged the ordinary Filipino to support the Federal party candidates in the coming Batasan elections.

Meanwhile, C. C. (Mel) Alfarero, chairman of the Philippine Statehood U.S.A. Movement executive council for America based in Arleta, California reported that an overwhelming U.S. congressional support for the statehood movement is being foreseen by the U.S. statehood leaders.

Alfarero disclosed in an interview with a U.S. based newspaper that Edward R. Roybal of the 25th district-California in the U.S. Congress House of Representatives, had written him endorsing the objectives of the Philippine Statehood U.S.A. Movement (PSUSAM).

Roybal in his letter said: "I have always supported self-determination for the people and nations who come within the sphere of influence of the United States. I would continue to do so in the case of the Philippines. If the majority of the Filipinos indicated by a plebiscite or voting process that they wished to become a state, I would be proud to support that movement in Congress.

The California lawmaker added that he "will follow the progress of the statehood issue in the Philippine election with great interest."

Alfarero said Roybal's views are significant because of his key positions in the U.S. Congress. Aside from being a member of the Lower House's Committee on Appropriations, Roybal is also chairman of the Subcommittee on Treasury Postal Service-General Government and member, subcommittee on Labor-Health.

DAVAO EDITORIAL REJECTS OPPOSITION TRANSITION PLAN

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 7 Apr 84 p 2

[Editorial: "On the Projected Government Takeover"]

[Text] Somewhere in this issue is a news item quoting former Sen. Jose Diokno on a plan by six top opposition men to finally take over the reins of the Philippine government. The report said that Diokno, together with five others which included former Senators Raul Manglapus and Jovito Salonga along with former President Diosdado Macapagal, have banded themselves to form the "transition committee" which will receive the government administration from President Marcos.

Whatever diplomatic term is applied to the plan, it is tantamount to a coup d'etat, be it bloody or otherwise. Perhaps, the agreement among the six opposition leaders has been the offshoot of a collective desire on their part to correct some wrongs they must have noticed in the Marcos leadership, but it is a fact that majority of the Filipinos are simply not ready to topple down the Marcos administration without the use of violence. Coming at a time when the country is preparing for the coming elections, the conference plan for the takeover tends to sow discord and chaos within a country that has already been rocked by tension and uncertainty, both political and economic.

It would be to the credit of the opposition leaders if they could come out at this time with a more practical and legal manner of achieving power without endangering national unity and without shedding any blood for national change. The people must not be the proverbial scapegoat of anyone against anyone. Filipinos are emotional, but that should not be sufficient reason for anyone or any group for exploiting emotion.

Sobriety is the main call of the hour. All plans must be postponed until after the elections, at least.

CSO: 4200/670

HA TUYEN PROVINCE 5 YEARS AFTER CHINESE INVASION

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 3 Mar 84 p 3

[Article by Le Giang: "On the 5th Anniversary of the Victory Over the War of Aggression of the Chinese Expansionists and Hegemonists: Ha Tuyen Moves Steadily Forward"]

[Text] A border province that faces the Chinese reactionaries, Ha Tuyen is bravely carrying out the two strategic tasks of building and defending the fatherland. During the past 5 years, under circumstances in which they have had to maintain combat readiness while increasing production, the people of the province have made steady progress and brought about changes in every area.

In Ha Tuyen, the most striking progress has been the progress made on the economic front, primarily in agricultural production. The party organization and people of the province, displaying a high spirit of self-reliance, have been making every effort to develop local potentials in order to develop agriculture, forestry and industry. The second round of the province's party organization congress decided to develop a full-scale agriculture based on intensive cultivation, specialized farming, multicropping and the expansion of the amount of land under cultivation, to curb the destruction of the forests and achieve self-sufficiency in grain and food products within the province. Establishing the goal of achieving self-sufficiency in grain in a border province where many difficulties are encountered in production, material-technical bases are still underdeveloped and backward and the enemy is constantly committing sabotage is an action of revolutionary significance.

Ha Tuyen has a true intensive cultivation movement to increase crop yields. The movement to apply scientific and technological measures has made much progress, crop yields have constantly increased and new models and new factors have been emerging in increasing numbers in all areas of the province. Fields with yields in excess of 30 quintals per hectare have developed rapidly, with many districts having as many as 6,500 hectares under the cultivation of rice and corn. The expanded use of product contracts at many cooperatives has strongly stimulated the enthusiasm of cooperative members for their work. In 1983, Ha Tuyen met the grain output target set forth by the congress of 245,644 tons, an increase of 15,000 tons compared to 1982 and the highest

output ever recorded. The province's average yield was more than 24 quintals, an increase of 1.5 quintals per hectare compared to 1982. Prior to then, it was rare for Ha Tuyen to mobilize 10,000 tons of grain yearly. Last year, Ha Tuyen contributed to the state more than 25,000 tons and still deposited grain reserves in its granaries. In 1983, Ha Tuyen met the entire province's grain needs. Before 1983, the districts in the highlands had to rely upon the state each year for hundreds of tons of grain; now, they have enough grain for themselves and contribute grain to the state. The districts in the lowlying areas have not only achieved self-sufficiency in grain, they also have surplus grain to provide to the border districts.

In addition to rice, the production of subsidiary food crops, industrial crops and special product crops, such as soybeans, peanuts, sugarcane, cotton, ramie and so forth, has increased, both in terms of the amount of area under cultivation and crop yields.

Livestock production is one strength of the province that has been maintained and developed. The province has adopted a policy that encourages families to raise buffalo and cattle in order to rapidly increase the size of livestock herds. In 1983, the province's cattle herd increased by 4.6 percent, its buffalo herd by 4.3 percent and its hog herd by 1.9 percent compared to 1982.

Industry and small industry have changed considerably. On the basis of the locality's characteristics, the guideline for industry and small industry is to develop local raw materials to serve the needs of the production, combat and daily lives of the people within the province. The province successfully researched and put into production several new products, such as pressed bamboo mats, tanned leather, vegetable oil, acetylene to replace lantern oil and other products. Importance has been attached to the production of hand tools and improved tools for use in the processing of agricultural and food products. The production of electricity, writing paper, zinc powder, building materials and other products has met plan quotas.

Ha Tuyen has attached special importance to the conservation and development of forest resources. The forestry industry has begun to be reorganized. The province has carried out the assignment of land and forests to cooperatives, cooperative member families, agencies and army units for use in business and for forest conservation purposes. The province has assigned more than 40,500 hectares of forests to 240 villages for them to manage and use commercially and has organized more than 20,000 people's forest conservation teams. The number of forest fires and destruction of the forest have markedly declined.

Although many difficulties are still being encountered in production, although harsh weather still poses obstacles to production and although the enemy is constantly spying on them and committing sabotage from the other side of the border, the party organization and people of Ha Tuyen have bravely moved forward and recorded victories in many areas, victories very deserving of pride. Generally speaking, the standard of living of working farmers is stable and has been improved in some respects and cadres, manual workers and the armed forces are encountering fewer difficulties in their daily lives.

Besides economic achievements, cultural, public health, educational and similar areas of work continued to develop and improve compared to 1982. The "light of culture" movement has been maintained in the highlands. Minority youth schools are continuing to be opened in the highlands. The schools in the lowlying areas have begun to implement the new educational reform program. The "new woman building and defending the fatherland" movement has been maintained and developed. The women of Ha Tuyen have a movement underway to assist the children of war dead and make positive contributions to the rear area work of the army. The Women's Union has mobilized women to plant cotton and ramie, practice sericulture and weave cloth and brocade cloth, which are traditional trades of minority women. The province has 16,000 hectares of cotton and ramie being raised by the Women's Union. The women of Xin Man, Meo Vac and Hoang Su Phi Districts have produced enough cloth to sew a suit of clothing (13 meters) and cloth for a number of persons in their families. The women of Meo Vac and Dong Van Districts have made important contributions to the production of 5 to 7 meters of cloth per person per year, thus opening good prospects for achieving partial self-sufficiency in cloth for the people of the locality. The movement to plant ramie and achieve self-sufficiency in cloth is spreading down to the districts of Son Duong, Yen Son and Chiem Hoa and Tuyen Quang City and starting to achieve results.

The province has given special attention to strengthening the national defense system and maintaining border security. The "all the people build the border defense line" movement has achieved good results and the movement to establish brotherhoods between districts in the rear and districts on the frontline has been developed in depth. We have organized the people within the areas facing the enemy and molded their thinking well so that they maintain both production and combat readiness within the area of operation and on the defense line of the locality.

Although the past 5 years have been 5 years in which we had to directly fight the schemes and acts of sabotage of the Chinese reactionaries, the movement of Ha Tuyen Province has continuously developed and recorded many new advances. The party organization and people of the province have displayed increasing confidence and gained much valuable experience for advancing the province's movement to a higher level of development. In 1984, the party organization and people of the province are highly determined to bring about new changes in thinking and organization, eliminate all rightism and all vagueness and lack of vigilance concerning the enemy and endeavor to successfully carry out our socio-economic, national defense and security tasks. Agricultural and forestry production continue to be the province's front of foremost importance. We will develop the potentials that lie in our labor, arable land and trade sector as best possible with a view toward providing a full supply of grain and food within the province. We will try to meet the output target of 260,000 tons of grain in 1984. Along with resolving the grain problem, we will develop a full-scale agriculture, promote livestock production and strongly develop industrial crop production to insure a stable supply of raw materials for industry and sources of export goods.

We will accelerate the assignment of land and forests in a manner closely linked to the settlement of nomads campaigns, coordinate agriculture, forestry and industry and establish a general forestry business and meet the plan for

raw materials for paper and fiber as well as the standard regarding the quantity of fuel per capita. Industry and the handicraft trades will be developed in the direction of supporting production, the standard of living and the building of the border defense line. We will develop the agricultural products processing industry, the consumer goods industry and the production of exports. An effort will be made to achieve partial self-sufficiency in sugar, honey, wine, fish sauce, wooden household utensils and pottery while producing some writing paper, cloth, medicine and so forth.

The province is also attaching special importance to developing communications-transportation and promoting capital construction under the guideline "the state and the people working together." We will strengthen the management of the market, maintain the standard of living, struggle to restore order in circulation and distribution and so forth.

On the security-national defense front, the objective of the province is to strongly promote the movement of all the people participating in the building of the border defense line. The management of the border will be strengthened. We will continue to organize population centers in a manner closely linked to the organization of production and the maintenance of combat readiness in the border villages and will establish stable rear service areas to provide the material bases needed for combat. Our effort to teach the spirit of vigilance and maintain domestic security will be intensified.

To successfully perform the tasks mentioned above, Ha Tuyen is attaching special importance to building the party and strengthening the government and to the activities of the mass organizations. We will improve the leadership and guidance provided by the various party committee echelons, improve the management effectiveness of the various levels of government and the mass organizations and promote an intense emulation movement to meet the socio-economic targets set by the provincial party organization congress.

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CSO: 4209/232

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

QUANG NINH PROVINCE 5 YEARS AFTER CHINESE INVASION

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 5 Mar 84 pp 3, 4

[Article by Vo Lien: "On the 5th Anniversary of the Victory Over the War of Aggression of the Chinese Expansionists and Hegemonists: Quang Ninh Province, the Northeastern Shield"]

[Text] Today, 5 years after the victory over the Chinese aggressor army, Quang Ninh Province is stronger than it ever was. It is a northeastern border province that has a large number of workers, a province in which the atmosphere surrounding production is intense, a province that is moving forward to meet its important socio-economic goals. Calm, vigilant, proud and brave, this frontline province has a powerful corps of workers and always displays the steadfast character of the working class. Each island, each forest and each mountain slope is a production site and a fortress protecting the beloved mining region.

It is a province that has a land border of more than 132 kilometers and a sea border of more than 250 kilometers with China, tens of thousands of ethnic minority members who have been challenged in combat and many valuable minerals. In 1979, Quang Ninh killed 5,000 Chinese aggressors. These aggressors were attacked and driven back to China before they had penetrated more than 1 kilometer into Quang Ninh.

Tens of thousands of persons from the lowland provinces, possessing an ardent love of the fatherland and a spirit of responsibility to the generations of tomorrow, have voluntarily moved to areas along this northeastern border to live, carry out production and defend the northeastern border of the fatherland. As the civilians of the region say, Quang Ninh has cleaned up its border, maintained security and rapidly stabilized production and everyday life.

Deserving of congratulations are the collective farmers of Quang Ninh, a mountain agricultural province, who have produced enough for themselves and contributed one-tenth of the grain supplied by the state to the 400,000 non-agricultural workers, who include mine workers and urban dwellers.

In 1983, for the first time ever, the entire province recorded an average rice yield of 4.2 tons per hectare and grain output, in paddy equivalent, increased

by 7,500 tons compared to 1982 and exceeded the target set by the 7th Congress of the Provincial Party Organization by 6,500 tons. Importance has been attached to water conservancy, fertilizer and seed. By introducing new varieties of rice, the border districts raised their yields by 7 to 10 percent. Dong Van, a village in Binh Lieu District whose population consists almost entirely of the Dao minority, shares rivers and streams with China and its rice fields lie along 25 kilometers of the border. In the fight against the enemy 5 years ago, the village reinforced troop unit H88 and helped it hold and defend Cao Ban Lanh Hill. The enemy's forces, who were many times larger, directed heavy artillery fire against the village in a vain attempt to cut off the frontlines from the rear area. Despite the enemy's intense fire, the people of Dong Van bravely carried ammunition and cooked food to battle positions. Since then, Chinese forces have frequently engaged in indiscriminate fire and destroyed property in a vain attempt to intimidate the spirit and sabotage the life of the people. Our compatriots there hate the enemy and fight them in a resourceful manner. On one day, Dong Van apprehended 32 Chinese intelligence agents at the same time. The people of Dong Van have not withdrawn 1 inch and their fields along the border, instead of being allowed to lie fallow, have produced increasing quantities of grain, produced not only enough for the people of the village, but enough to fulfill obligations to the state as well. Dong Van has traded anise, cinnamon, tung oil and citronella for goods worth millions of dong and each citizen of the district produces an average of 5,000 dong worth of export goods. And, as a result of economic development, the province has been able to purchase a ship to transport goods and will purchase a second ship. The secretary of the Dong Van Party Committee remarked: "We are steadily moving down the path of socialist construction, endeavoring to catch up to the lowlands in many areas and tenaciously cling to this land of many hardships, this land that lies directly across from the enemy but is a very glorious place in which to live."

With the development of agricultural production and the improvements that have been made to procurement and price policies, the investments in commercial hog herds and chicken flocks within the household and collective economies have begun to increase. For the first time ever, Quang Ninh now produces locally hundreds of tons of chicken meat and pork for supply to the armed forces stationed within the province, thus greatly reducing the waste and loss that occur when these food products must be transported from the lowlands. This is a good economic as well as national defense experience, one that reflects the profound understanding that the cadres and people of the province have concerning the people's war.

For the past several decades, the leaders and people of the province have been concerned about and given very much thought to the question of how the agricultural population of Quang Ninh could produce enough grain and food to support themselves and support the development of the handicraft trades, the redistribution of labor and the mining industry. This goal is now becoming reality. This year, also for the first time ever, Quang Ninh was able to provide 600 tons of its own rice and establish a preferential policy for the teachers invited to Quang Ninh to teach the traditional trades; it also raised the income of the families of mine workers, provided more consumer goods within the province, provided more goods for exportation and so forth.

The island line is considered to be a region of strategic importance. Each cluster of islands has intensified the harvesting of marine products, agricultural production and forestry production. Quan Lan Village, which still bears the scars of the port of Van Don from the time of the Ly and Tran Dynasties and has done battle with the northern aggressors on prior occasions, now has a cargo fleet powered by thousands of horsepower. Lacking land on which to raise rice, the people of the island raise subsidiary food crops and have more than they need. Their one cooperative sells the state 70,000 tons of fish. Electric lights have appeared within the households on the island, thus showing that the standard of living of the island people has been improved. At sea, during the day and at night as well, flotillas of fishing collectives conduct fishing operations while working with naval forces and coastal artillery forces to guard the offshore waters and protect the mainland. The fight being waged at sea against the intelligence agents, commandoes and smugglers of the Chinese expansionists, which is always a decisive, hot fight has enriched the experience of a people's war to defend the fatherland among the compatriots and the armed forces of Quang Ninh.

Quang Ninh's local economic development has been integrally linked to supporting coal production and strengthening the national defense system. The coal, power and machine industries of the central level have supported the development of the local economy. The coal sector is not satisfied with its economic returns because they are not commensurate with the investments that have been made. However, the sector is changing itself with the assistance of the entire province. The large force of cadres and workers of the coal mines and the people of the entire province are defending the border and fighting the wide-ranging war of sabotage of the enemy. With their very heroic corps of technical cadres and skilled workers, with their tradition of sending an entire corps of mining workers to support the South in the fight against the United States and with their low altitude and high altitude anti-aircraft artillery regiments that fought the war of destruction of the U.S. Air Force, each coal mine is a true combat fortress today. Today, the self-defense division of the Hon Gai Coal Mine, which is one of the local army's dependable, best organized units, is the master of modern weapons and equipment, possesses the steadfast will to fight of mine workers and is ready to join our army in delivering thundering blows to the Chinese expansionists.

Upon the completion of the visit to Quang Ninh, a delegation from KAMPUCHEA Newspaper wrote in the Golden Book of the Cam Pha Machine Center: "Here in Quang Ninh, here in the mining region, we see the heroic tradition of mine workers, see the invincible strength of Vietnam even more!"

Through their spirit of collective ownership, by utilizing every capability they have and building a combined strength, the compatriots of the Quang Ninh minorities are making every effort to be worthy of being soldiers at a frontline position, at a position entrusted to them by the people of the entire country: the northeastern shield of the fatherland.

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

LANG SON BUILDS, HEROICALLY DEFENDS BORDER

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 2 Mar 84 p 3

[Article by Nguyen Thanh Van: "Fifth Anniversary of Victory in the Chinese Hegemony-Advocating Expansionists' Aggressive War -- Lang Son Heroically Fights and Builds"]

[Text] At 0400 hours on 17 February 1979, shells of all sizes fired in salvos by the Chinese reactionaries were falling at quickened pace onto villages, towns, cities, schools, hospitals, day nurseries, and so on along the Lang Son border all the way from Dinh Lap to Trang Dinh. At that same time, their infantry troops, tanks and armored vehicles, which had been hiding through the night, were crossing the border to madly invade Lang Son. Just as the aggressive armies of the Chinese feudal dynasties in the past had done, the aggressors burned, killed and destroyed very savagely wherever they went. From the very first minutes, they bumped against the resolute resistance of the army and people of the ethnic minorities of Lang Son; the latter, after 30 days and nights of bitter heroic fighting and competing with the enemy for every hill, hamlet and house, finally chased the enemy from our territory, killed and captured alive tens of thousands of enemy troops, seized and destroyed many weapons and their means of war.

Following their victory the party organization and ethnic minority people of Lang Son immediately started the recovery work, to heal the war wounds, to step up production and to gradually stabilize their living conditions. With the "mutual help" feelings, the people of the districts in the rear gave material aid and labor to their compatriots in the border districts. The provinces in the rear throughout the country, along with the CPV Central Committee, were quickly sending grain, medicines, clothes, building materials, production tools, and so on to assist the Lang Son people.

In the last 5 years, under the conditions of having to permanently face the multifaceted war of destruction of the Chinese reactionaries, Lang Son was still moving forward and standing firm at the most dangerous location and in

spite of the difficulties caused by natural and enemy-inflicted calamities. After the enemy troops had withdrawn, an urgent task was to remove tens of thousands of mines they had left behind in the ricefields and slash-burn upland fields full of craters and bunkers that they had dug. To make the fields reusable required not only sweat but also blood. In spite of the great difficulties, the Lang Son party organization and ethnic minority people were still moving forward. The most obvious and perhaps greatest victory still was that on the agricultural production front. Few people had thought that the terraced fields and depleted soil of the border districts of Loc Binh and Cao Loc could yield 20-23 quintals per hectare per crop. However, only after a few years, it was a common thing in the province to find such cooperatives as Yen Khoai, Na Pan and Hai Yen that obtained yields of 30 quintals or more. Other cooperatives, such as Van Thu and De Tham, even surpassed that figure and joined the 8-10 Tons/Hectare/Year Club as the average annual increase in the province was 6.3 percent of the gross grain production. Although that rate of increase was not a fast one compared to the delta provinces, that figure was an encouraging one under the actual conditions of Lang Son. More important was the fact that Lang Son was able to find the right direction to take. It was the combination of agriculture and forestry at the district level. By taking that direction, Yen Khoai, a border village where 90 percent of the material base was destroyed by the Chinese troops in February 1979, now had an average monthly per capita grain consumption of 29 kilograms as the result of its practicing for the last few years intensive cultivation and multicropping combined with afforestation and protection of forests. The village was also able to build a new school, dispensary, day nursery, village administrative center, wired-radio station and other public works valued at millions of dong. Every year it fulfilled its obligation to the state. Some people who returned to visit Yen Khoai, had this to say:

In only a few years Yen Khoai has completed construction work at a level equivalent to what it built in decades.

But Lang Son did not have Yen Khoai as its sole typical model. The party organization of Lang Son some time ago has confirmed that in order to build a strong border defense line, it must build villages that would be economically strong and politically solid and could maintain order and security and a good degree of combat readiness. Following Yen Khoai and on the basis of its experience, Lang Son was building such villages as Hai Yen, Xuat Le, Thanh Long, Quoc Khanh, and so on. The struggle between two roads and the process of carrying on three revolutions at the same time became more bitter and complicated everyday because there constantly were destruction and acts of war on the part of the Chinese reactionaries on every day and in every hour; however, the entire border of the province remained strong and the material and spiritual life of the ethnic minority people continued to be improved, which provided a better position and more strength for new development.

Industrial production, communications and transportation, public health, education and other activities all showed new progresses. Almost all of the industrial production installations destroyed by the Chinese aggressors in 1979 were restored and production in many aspects was better than in the pre-1979 period. Every year the province's industry, small industry and handicrafts supplied agriculture with hundreds of thousands of manual tools, satisfied the needs for machine repairs, served agriculture, manufactured building materials, processed agricultural and forest products, produced goods for consumption and export, for the first time built the agriculture-forestry-industry structure at the district level and gradually built the latter at the provincial level. On the basis of clearly recognizing their functions and responsibilities, all sectors voluntarily took part in the process of fulfilling the province's central tasks, particularly the agricultural production task, and gradually overcame sluggishness, bureaucracy and other negative aspects in production.

Having grown up and matured in production and combat against the Chinese reactionaries' plots and tricks, the army and ethnic minority people of Lang Son have precious experiences and feel reassured as they carry out the objectives for the coming years. The direction to take in 1984 is to continue stepping up production in agriculture and forestry, which is considered the forefront; to exploit in the best manner the labor and land potentialities, for the purpose of quickly raising grain and food production; to step up animal husbandry in all three sectors; to quickly extend the areas for short-term industrial crops; to pay attention to extending the areas for anise, tung tree, camellia, medicinal plants and other plants for export; to create additional sources of raw materials for industry; and to quickly increase the volume of export. To develop industry, communications and transportation and other sectors, to strive to produce in 1984 140,000 tons of grain, or 11.6 percent increase over 1983. Along with stepping up grain crop production, to concentrate efforts on creating big changes in the cultivation of industrial crops, particularly the main-crop ones like tobacco, tung tree, anise, etc. As to tobacco and a number of short-term industrial crops, in addition to planting by the cooperatives according to assignment under its plan, the province has to mobilize all of its cadres, workers and vocational school students for raising the tobacco-growing areas from 3,000 to 3,500 hectares, or increasing by 75 percent over 1983, and having a gross production of 1,800-2,000 tons. To grow 1,000-1,200 hectares of tung tree and camellia in the slash-burn upland fields that have been used to grow grain crops in Binh Gia, Van Lang and Trang Dinh Districts and to plant leguminous crops as companion crops in order to improve the soil and in the form of both the state and the people doing the work together. To extend the areas devoted to anise by practicing intensive cultivation, to enrich the present 2,000 hectares of anise and to combine them with planting anew in more than 500 additional hectares. In 1984, the

province has to produce 1,700 tons of anise as raw material for export. Sugar cane and soybean also hold an important position in Lang Son's crop allocation this year. With new policies and strong measures, in 1984 Lang Son is capable of producing 72,000 tons of sugar cane, with a 40 percent increase in volume of production and 50 percent in cultivated areas compared to 1983, and growing 2,500 hectares of soybeans in order to produce 1,820 tons, an increase of 105 percent compared to 1983.

On the basis of stepping up production development, this year and in the coming years Lang Son is determined to restore order on the distribution and circulation front. With new measures, the state will be able to control goods and cash and to properly manage the market. The locality's major products, such as grain, tobacco, anise flowers, tung tree and soybean, will be placed under strict state management, thus creating greater sources of goods for export. In 1984 the total value of Lang Son's export will increase by 50 percent over 1983 mainly with agricultural and forest products; at the same time, the province is to make good preparations for the conditions leading to greater volume of exported goods in 1985 and subsequent years.

As an immediate step, it must perfect the export-import enterprise machinery from provincial to district level and improve its working methods in order to have total control over sources of goods and to organize purchases better.

Animal husbandry is one of Lang Son's strengths. In 1984 the province is to make it one of the principal production sectors and to develop it in all three sectors -- state-operated, cooperative and family-based sectors. This year Lang Son will increase its herd of buffaloes and cattle to 175,000 heads, an increase of 6.4 percent, and its herd of hogs to 158,000, an increase of 3.7 percent over last year. To organize good management of buffaloes and cattle and to fight overslaughtering and illegal business in order to achieve economic integration with the friendly provinces and to fulfill the centrally-assigned goal of delivering buffaloes and cattle to the state.

Along with the task of stepping up production and developing the economy, the Lang Son party organization is extremely concerned about building the party, administration and mass organizations; providing cadres with elementary and advanced training; creating new changes; fulfilling the economic and social objectives recommended by the 9th Provincial Party Organization Congress; and fulfilling the proud task of a province on the front line, to steadily defend the fatherland's frontier. It is determined to defeat the enemy in his style of multifaceted war of destruction and stands ready to punish the Chinese aggressors if they invade Lang Son.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

NATIONAL-LITERATURE BOOKSTORE OPENED WITH GDR AID

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 2 Mar 84 p 4

[VNA News Release: " Transfer of National-Literature General Bookstore in Vinh As Gift From GDR "]

[Text] Implementing the 1981-1985 Cultural Cooperation and Exchange Accord between the SRV and the GDR, the GDR Ministry of Culture has recently sent technicians to the City of Vinh to install equipment and machinery as aid to the National-Literature General Bookstore there.

The Vinh City National-Literature General Bookstore covers an area of 150 square meters, is valued at 200,000 marks and has 43 departments. The equipment and machinery in it are quite modern and very beautiful and have great durability and high utilization value.

On 25 February, Georg Lindow, deputy chief of the General Department of Book Publication and representative of the GDR Ministry of Culture, and representatives of the GDR Embassy in Vietnam came to Vinh to carry out the transfer of this project.

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

HANOI BANK REPORTS ON 1983 OPERATIONS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 5 Mar 84 p 2

[Article by Huu Hanh: "Hanoi: Advances Made in Monetary and Credit Activities"]

[Text] As the largest payment, credit and cash management center in the country, the Hanoi Municipal Bank receives and processes each day a large volume of very complex economic information in order to meet the needs for expenditures on the development of production, administrative management and social management.

Effective Credit and Persuasive Proposals

In the face of the requirements involved in guiding monetary, credit and payment activities in the new situation, the municipal bank established credit activities as the number one element of its activity program, with emphasis placed in 1983 on providing credit in the form of liquid capital to production installations. In its credit activities, the bank has given its attention to complying with the following principles: any place that does not verify how its liquid capital has been used may not receive a loan and verification of such use that is cursory or deceptive in nature or fails to comply with procedures is not accepted. This method of operation has contributed to the improvement of the workstyle of many financial management cadres at production installations; to the rapid completion of the entire plan for the adjustment of liquid capital ceilings; to the prompt allocation of more than 400 million dong in place of budget allocations; to the establishment of stable enterprise finances; to meeting the needs for liquid capital; and to raising the credit turnover rate to 8.5 times, 2.4 times more than in 1982. Total liquid capital indebtedness exceeded the state plan quota by .7 percent. Through the various sectors involved in the circulation of goods, the bank controlled the warehouse inventories of each unit in commerce, kept abreast of market changes, steadfastly stimulated sales and found markets for goods worth hundreds of millions of dong that were "backlogged and moving slowly." The sector met the relatively large needs for cash by the commerce and grain sectors for use as liquid capital in a relatively full manner.

In industrial and commercial credit, attention has been given to not decentralizing the sources of capital and to making capital available to meet

needs for technological improvements, the rationalization of production, the expansion of businesses, product diversification and so forth. The total amount of capital used for these purposes increased two-fold compared to 1982. A number of projects that were completed and put into use have yielded high returns, such as the following: a production line producing exported neck parts of musical instruments, which has increased total annual output value by 30 percent; the installation of 1,150 additional looms for the production of exported rugs in order to raise rug output from 90,000 square meters in 1983 to 200,000 square meters in the years ahead; the installation of additional compressor equipment, which has raised hat output to 650,000 per year; the improvement of a brick production line and the installation of additional brick presses, which have raised output to 1 million bricks; and an investment in the purchase of a 60 ton punch press, which has raised the output of electric fans to more than 5,000 per year. The actions taken by the bank, in addition to increasing the output of production units, have also provided jobs for thousands of persons within various economic units.

The Management of Cash Receipts and Expenditures

The needs for cash expenditures are increasing each day and cash is being used at a more rapid rate than cash revenues are being received. This is a problem that has existed for many years. Experiencing difficulties with cash and being called upon to make emergency expenditures beyond planning projections, the bank has looked for every way to develop sources of revenue and has taken many steps to mobilize cash. It has inspected the delivery of products to the state at production installations, promoted sales, expanded the cash deposit points at installations that have direct relations with the bank and conducted many inspections of the management and use of cash funds at agencies and enterprises. Considering controlling money and goods to be the requirement of central importance, it put limits on postponements and extensions of payments and curbed irresponsibility toward customers. Although it has not fully and promptly met each requirement, the bank has made many efforts to provide money for procurements, the payment of wages to cadres, manual workers and civil servants, the payment of earnings to cooperative members, the transfer of money to other banks, withdrawals from savings accounts and other needs.

One major achievement recorded by the Hanoi Bank in developing sources of revenue was the prompt implementation of the law on Industrial and Commercial Taxes, which broadened the sources of revenue and increased the business tax revenues from private individuals in industry and commerce. During the past year, tax revenues increased by hundreds of millions of dong compared to 1982. Through tax activities, the bank has more closely managed the activities of private individuals in commerce by means of business licenses and the opening of private accounts at the bank. Today, the Hanoi Bank manages more than 3,200 accounts of businesses in industry and commerce; these accounts enable it to control nearly 6 million dong per month.

Hanoi is the locality that leads the country in attracting savings deposits on all three levels: municipal, ward (district) and subward (villages). The savings movement is a widespread, continuous movement, one that has given rise to many new factors. As of the end of 1983, the total savings deposits of the city stood at 609 million dong, a 2.2-fold increase compared to 1982 and an increase of 334 million dong in accumulated capital, more than 215 million

dong of which were accumulated in cash. Each citizen has an average of 232 dong on deposit in a savings account, an increase of 132 dong. Hoan Kiem Ward, which has a per capita average of 833 dong in savings, is the ward with the highest savings in the country. Yen So Village in Thanh Tri District, which has nearly 6 million dong on deposit in savings accounts, leads the subwards and villages of the country. Savings Fund Number 3 in Trang Tien Subward leads the other units of the sector with 31 million dong in deposits. The achievements mentioned above were recorded primarily as a result of knowing how to appeal to the patriotism of each citizen. On the other hand, in its specialized operations, the banking sector expanded the network of savings funds and put on additional shifts and personnel so that the people can deposit their money more conveniently. It has constantly improved the quality of the work performed by credit cooperatives and savings funds while managing and effectively utilizing the savings deposits of the people. It has taken positive steps to attract idle money within the national economy and among the people to the State Bank. Last year, the bank managed more than 200 million dong of capital for repair work for state-operated enterprises and more than 70 million dong in accumulated capital and depreciation for collective economic organizations.

Despite the advances mentioned above, the Hanoi Bank is still not meeting the demands of production management and social management and, to many installations, the reliability of banking activities is not truly high. The bank displays little dynamism and flexibility in investing capital in economic development within the capital and at times even poses a considerable obstacle to installations. The bank is not fulfilling its credit, payment, inspection or supervisory functions nor its function of accurately evaluating the operations of each enterprise. Although the bank is controlling money and goods better it is still weak in this regard. Goods still flow in large quantities from small industry and handicraft cooperatives to the market. There is still much idle cash in the countryside and the businesses in commerce. The problem of expenditures made in violation of regulations still persists and a rather large amount of money is circulating outside the scope of management of the bank. The production of the various sectors is still developing at a cautious pace, partly because the bank is hesitant and does not dare to assume responsibility.

Making the final economic returns to society the measurement of its success, the Hanoi Bank is trying to improve the way that it thinks and acts so that it can make stronger progress on the credit and cash management front.

STATE BACKS VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION BONDS WITH INDUSTRIAL GOODS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 3 Mar 84 p 1

[Article: "The List and Prices of the Products Against Which the Value of the Money Spent To Purchase Bonds Will Be Guaranteed"]

[Text] On 27 February 1984, in keeping with Council of State regulation dated 24 November 1983 and Council of Ministers' Decree Number 145 on the purchase of fatherland construction bonds, which directs that "the state will guarantee the value of the money spent to buy bonds through commonly used industrial goods," the Ministry of Finance announced the list of the 10 products that will guarantee the value of the money spent to purchase bonds for bond coupons issued in 1983 and 1984. They are: apartments: 8,000 dong per square meter; bricks: 1,600 dong per thousand; tiles: 3,000 dong per thousand; P400 cement: 8,000 dong per ton; construction steel: 20,000 dong per ton; Thong Nhat bicycles: 7,500 dong apiece; Ba Dinh ceiling fans: 6,500 dong apiece; Hoa Sen rotating table fans: 7,500 dong apiece; Ba Dinh sewing machines: 10,000 dong apiece; Nam Dinh black satin cloth: 220 dong per meter; and poplin cloth blended with synthetic fiber: 100 dong per meter.

The products on the list are of high quality. When payment is made, the list might be expanded to include other products depending upon the state's supply of goods and the prices of these additional products will be commensurate with the prices of the standard products. When receiving payment, the holder of the bond coupon is free to choose products suited to his or her needs. Apartments only apply to bond payments made in cities and industrial areas as defined in Article 1 of Decree Number 145/HDBT.

When payment is being made for bond coupons that were purchased and recorded as being purchased in cash, the value of the money paid for the coupon will be recalculated on the basis of the changes in the prices of the warranty products.

Payment for bond coupons that were purchased and recorded as being purchased in paddy will be made in money. If the price of the paddy was computed at procurement incentive prices, payment can be made in the form of commonly used industrial goods as is the case with bond coupons purchased with money.

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

COLLECTING MORE REVENUE FROM STATE-OPERATED UNITS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 2 Mar 84 p 1

[Editorial: "Revenue From State-Operated Units "]

[Text] The central and local state-operated economic units play a leading role in the national economy and at the same time are the largest sources of revenue for the state budget. Of a total of more than 10,000 state-operated economic units only one-fifth is the central units directly under central management, but they account for more than one-half of the annual value of gross production and nearly 80 percent of the budgetary receipts. In recent years, our people have displayed the spirit of self-reliance in developing production and exploiting sources of domestic revenue to satisfy the spending needs aimed at building the material base of socialism. In 1983, the revenue collected from the state-operated economic units increased by 34.4 percent compared to the plan goal. All of 40 provinces, municipalities and special zones subordinate to the central administration and some sectors earning large income, such as the food industry, light industry, sea products, forestry, grain, materials, water conservancy, domestic trade, and so on, showed considerable revenue collection. However, the increased revenue collection was partially due to collection based on differential retail prices of some imported goods and domestic consumer goods of the nonessential type.

If we compare with the producing capacity of the state-operated economic units and the needs of the country, however, the quality of management in connection with collection of revenue from the state-operated economic units in particular and the management of budgetary receipts in general still show many shortcomings. Discipline in connection with production management, payment of collected revenue and accumulation in many units has not been very strict yet.

There still are many cases of industrial products being leaked into the free market or enterprises deliberately using and exchanging products for their

own gain, instead of practicing economic integration to develop production for the benefit of society as a whole. Billions of dong remain uncollected from the state-operated economic units; meanwhile, at the beginning of 1984, many units were unable to engage in production right away and, consequently, in January collections from the state-operated economic units, mostly the local ones, were poor. Throughout the country only Thai Binh Province and the Ministry of Light Industry have fulfilled the goal of having good budgetary receipts; as to other sectors and localities, since the receipts were small, they created difficulties for the efforts to balance the budget and to invest capital in building a number of sectors and key projects. The main reason was that many sectors and units had problems with their goods manufacturing plans as they had not been able to maintain a timely balance in connection with energy and materials and the semifinished products had not been sold.

We must quickly increase receipts from all sources, mostly from the state-operated economic units, in order to ensure spending for the necessary items, along with practicing thrift in production, construction and consumption. In order to satisfy the above-mentioned needs, there is no better way than concentrating on exploiting every existing capability, stepping up production and obtaining real results from our work. The state-operated economic units must take the necessary measures to tightly manage the materials and labor use norms, to raise the coefficient for use of equipment and machinery, to fight waste and corruption, to improve product quality, to reduce costs, to increase the income of workers and civil servants, to increase the sources of revenue for the state budget and to gradually have accumulation from within the national economy and reserves.

The dynamic and serious behavior of production installations in carrying out collection of revenue from the state-operated economic units positively affects the current upward movement of the national economy as a whole. To fulfill in a total and timely manner the goal of collecting from these units every month and every quarter is a decisive condition to ensure the economy's normal activities and the leading criterion for evaluating the level of organization, management and contribution on the part of each sector and unit.

The plan for collection from state-operated economic units must be drafted from the basic level up and originate from the realities and conditions of production in order to maintain a financial balance for every installation in every quarter and to overcome the situation in which all collection is carried out at the end of the year, and the collected money remains intact as they cannot think of any spending. All units must carry out the principle of socialist enterprise, maintain the rules about industrial management and get rid of irrational expenses in the costs of products, which have been eroding the sources of revenue and reducing the economic results of every dong of capital. Many

different measures must be taken to put an end to the situation in which some units deliberately avoid delivering the full quantities of products to the state and hold them back "to improve the standard of living," in violation of the common regulations and abusing the capital of other installations.

To properly carry out the task of concentrating collection of revenue from the state-operated economic units is to contribute to building up the budget in an active manner and stabilizing the socioeconomic situation of the country.

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AGRICULTURE

PROVINCES SET GOALS FOR RAISING GRAIN PRODUCTION

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 2 Mar 84 p 1

[VNA News Release: "Implementing the 5th Party Congress Resolution -- Ben Tre Strives To Reach 460,000 Tons of Grain, To Grow 12,000 Additional Hectares of Coconut; Ha Son Binh Rationally Exploits Labor, Land Potentialities"]

[Text] The Ben Tre Provincial CPV Committee has just met with 1,000 leading cadres of all levels and sectors in the province to discuss the 5th Party Congress resolution and the measures to be taken to successfully fulfill its 1984 socioeconomic goals.

In 1984, Ben Tre concentrates its energy on exploiting labor and land; developing its 4 strengths, namely, ricefields, gardens, marine products and local industry; stepping up 5 major productions, namely, rice, coconut, shrimp, fish and sugar cane; and striving to fulfill at any cost the goal of getting 460,000 tons of grain and 40,000 tons of fish and shrimp, growing 12,000 additional hectares of coconut and maintaining 9,000 hectares of sugar cane.

The province has to promote total agricultural development, to basically complete the transformation of agriculture, to put more than 80 percent of its land into 3,000 production collectives and agricultural cooperatives, to strive to shorten the crop rotation cycle, to invest in creating 30,000 hectares of high yielding rice land, to make the yields of rice and other crops exceed those of previous years and thus to ensure having enough food for itself and to fulfill the obligation to the state.

The province pays attention to exploiting local sources of raw materials in order to step up production of goods needed in the locality and for export, tries to produce more varieties of goods and attaches importance to productivity, quality and economic results.

The Ha Son Binh Provincial CPV Committee has organized a study of the 5th Party Congress resolution and discussions of the measures to be taken to successfully implement it and has decided to mobilize the cadres, party members and people in the province for boosting production through labor emulation, rationally exploiting the labor and land potentialities and fulfilling the goals of the 1984 state plan.

In 1984, Ha Son Binh strives to get 500,000 tons of grain to ensure having enough food and some reserves. It concentrates energy on properly carrying out technical intensive-cultivation measures and making appropriate investment in water conservancy work in order to reduce the flood- and drought-stricken areas and to be self-sufficient in water and drainage for both the fifth-month and tenth-month rice crops. As an immediate step, it has to give priority to supplying electricity, to use labor in water conservancy work in order to get water for planting all of 71,000 hectares of fifth-month and spring rice within the crop-growing schedule, to step up export in order to import more nitrate fertilizer -- to ensure having 6,000 tons of nitrate fertilizer that satisfies the required standards for its farmers -- and to consolidate the seed supply system by getting ready to replace all of the rice varieties that have degenerated with the good varieties by the 1985 spring season.

Along with grain and food production the province attaches importance to growing subsidiary food crops, particularly in the areas where food shortages exist, and reexamines and reviews its policies about, investment in and zoning for such major industrial crops as mulberries, sugar cane, tobacco, peanut, beans, garlic, green pepper, and so on, which provide raw materials for industry and manufacturing of consumer goods and goods for export. In the high-land districts, it will quickly and steadily expand the planting of tung trees and continue to enlarge the areas devoted to cotton and mulberries in order to resolve part of the materials-for-making-clothes problem.

The province firmly overcomes the bad practice of carelessly destroying forests, completes the assigning of land and forests to cooperatives and their members for management and mobilizes some of the manpower available in the delta cooperatives and the army force stationed in the locality for participation in the afforesting efforts.

AGRICULTURE

THAI BINH, HA NAM NINH REPORT ON 5TH MONTH-SPRING RICE CROPS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 8 Mar 84 p 1

[Article: "Thai Binh and Ha Nam Ninh Quickly Transplant Their 5th Month-Spring Rice"]

[Text] As of 5 March, Thai Binh Province had sown or transplanted 72,000 hectares of 5th month-spring rice, which represents 96 percent of its plan quota and a faster pace than last year. The districts of Thai Thuy, Hung Ha, Vu Thu and Dong Hung have completed from 97 to 98 percent of their plan quotas. Some 112 of the province's 280 villages finished transplanting their crops in late February and are now making full use of the seedlings they raised by transplanting them on 10th month seedling fields and sweet potato fields damaged by the cold weather.

Thai Binh has gradually improved the final product contracts with laborers. As a result, the preparation of soil, irrigation, dry land plowing and so forth have been carried out in an urgent and well coordinated manner, even on rainy, cold days; seedlings were cultivated well and there has been a full supply of high quality seedlings. As a result, the cooperatives of the province virtually completed the transplanting of 5th month-spring rice during the best season.

At the start of the season, the standing committee of the provincial party committee established an allocation of varieties consisting of early spring rice varieties 314, 424, 184, VN10, VN20 and M2 transplanted as seedlings on 30 to 35 percent of the land under cultivation, with seedlings being sown between 10 and 25 November 1983. The transplanting of main spring rice variety NN8, which is sown 5 to 10 days earlier than the others, was completed before 15 February and accounts for 45 to 50 percent of the rice under cultivation. The remaining rice is late spring rice consisting of such short-term varieties as 75-10, CR203 and so forth. Although seedlings were hit by a frost, not many were lost. The province decided to shift to the cultivation of short-term varieties at those cooperatives that had raised yard-grown seedlings and seedlings in hard ground and encountered difficulties in late January.

There was a prolonged cold spell in late January and early February, as a result of which the province directed those cooperatives that had not yet

transplanted their crops to protect their seedlings and prepare their soil, water and fertilizer. It was not until after the start of spring that efforts were focused on transplanting at these cooperatives.

After 10 February, when the weather gradually warmed, the province directed that seeds be sown first (the province only sowed 2,755 hectares of seed, 3.6 percent of the area under cultivation) and that 5th month rice and rice in lowlying fields be transplanted first. Yard-grown seedlings and short-term seedlings were transplanted last. Many cooperative members raised very good yard-grown seedlings and seedlings in gardens. Those cooperatives that had a surplus of seedlings and seed helped those that were experiencing a shortage. Reserve seed of the province was also sent to help those cooperatives that needed much more seed than they had. Labor was very highly centralized. On warm days, 10 to 12 hours were spent transplanting; on cool days, the warm hours of the day were selected for transplanting. Many cooperatives completed their transplanting in only 7 to 10 days. The cooperatives of the province are now shifting the focus of their attention to the cultivation and fertilization of their rice crops.

As of the end of February 1984, Ha Nam Ninh Province had transplanted 90,000 of its 145,000 hectares of 5th month-spring rice. The five districts in the key rice growing region of the province, Hai Hau, Nghia Hung, Xuan Thuy, Nam Ninh and Kim Son, had transplanted more than 90 percent of their 5th month-spring rice. Nghia Hung District has transplanted its entire 9,500 hectares, thus completing its transplanting more quickly than any other district. The cooperatives within the district have economized on seedlings and transplanted additional rice on seedlings fields and other available land.

At places where there has been a shortage of seedlings, cooperatives have provided each cooperative member family with 30 to 50 kilograms of table paddy in advance to trade for seed paddy or provided them with an advance of 500 dong to purchase seedlings or seed paddy. This paddy or money will be repaid to the cooperative at harvest time. The districts have balanced the surplus seed and seedlings among cooperatives that had a surplus and those experiencing a shortage. Xuan Thuy District has sent seeds and seedlings from Xuan Bac and Xuan Loc Villages to Xuan Chau Village, from Giao An Village to Giao Xuan and Giao Lac Villages and from Xuan Phuong Village to Giao Tien Village.

Those places that have nearly completed their transplanting have shifted to the first phase of cultivation and fertilization and are taking advantage of warm, sunny days to transplant all of their fields on schedule while not allowing one family that accepted a contract to fail to plant fields because of a shortage of seedlings. Ha Nam Ninh is trying to complete its transplanting of 5th month-spring rice on 10 March.

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POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE

CHIEF OF LABOR RELOCATION DEPARTMENT SEES NEED FOR IMPROVED POLICIES

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 8 Mar 84 p 2

[Article by Nguyen Kim Son, chief of the Labor and Population Relocation Department (the Ministry of Labor): "Successfully Completing the Task of Carrying Out the Relocation of Labor and Population"]

[Text] We recently met and exceeded the quota concerning the redistribution of labor and population in 1983 and have made much progress in the quality of this effort. During the past 3 years (1981-1983), welcome advances were made in the task of redistributing labor and the population for the purpose of making efficient use of the labor and arable land at each installation, within each locality and throughout the country. The rate at which labor is being relocated has increased considerably. In 1981, the country relocated more than 55,000 laborers; in 1982, this number increased to nearly 75,000 and, last year, more than 95,000 laborers were relocated, thus raising the annual rate of relocation by 20.5 percent for laborers and 26.9 percent for other members of the population. In particular, in 1983, we provided an important percentage of the labor required to meet the needs of the leading economic sectors of the country and brought about changes in awareness, thinking and the ability to organize the relocation of labor and population on a broad scale. We successfully established many different forms of new economic and population centers in many different areas.

A Correct Understanding of the Position and Significance of the Task of Redistributing and Relocating Labor and Population in the New Situation

Although the jobs performed during the first 3 years of the 5-year plan (1981-1985) concerning the redistribution and relocation of labor and population on a nationwide scale involved many efforts, compared to the norms that have been established for this task, we still have 47 percent of the labor norm and nearly 52 percent of the population norm yet to complete in the 2 years 1984 and 1985. The relocation target for 1984 is 38 percent higher than the level achieved last year.

Carrying out this task at a more rapid rate of development but with virtually the same amount of capital, supplies, means of transportation and cadres and virtually the same specialized organizational system as we had in recent years

can easily result in new difficulties if we do not clearly define the relationship between collective ownership and the combined strength of many sectors and levels and, on this basis, clearly define the awareness and thinking as well as the measures that every sector and installation must possess and take.

The process of seeking to achieve increasingly high targets regarding the quality of labor, the number of laborers and the structure of the labor force relocated is of immediate importance in rapidly providing stable living conditions and a stable production organization for these laborers and their families and also creates the conditions for establishing new economic-population centers that support the development of the socialist economy. Facts have shown that those places that closely link their plan for the redistribution of labor and population to the task of building the new economy and society within their area and carry out the relocation of labor and population well while successfully promoting planned parenthood not only bring about economic change, but also create a rich spiritual life, create a stratum of eager workers who work in a conscientious, creative and highly productive manner. We have more than a few model units that have brought about basic changes along the lines described above and have done so in many different areas and through many different forms of organization. However, the results that have been achieved have largely been due to creating the correct understanding of the objectives and significance of the redistribution of labor and population within a village, within a district and on a nationwide scale.

In many districts and provinces, although they are experiencing shortages of capital, supplies, means of transportation and so forth, once the party committee and government acquire the correct understanding of the objective laws as well as the pressing needs of the national economy, it is easy to bring about changes in the relocation of labor and population, quickly establish new economic zones and new population centers and perform both economic and national defense tasks well.

However, at some times and places, the failure to attach importance to the task of relocating labor and population and the lack of coordination on the part of many functional sectors have led to putting a specialized agency in charge of this effort, thus failing to promptly meet the needs of the people at the places from which and to which labor is being sent and causing both economic and ideological harm to laborers themselves.

Utilizing a Combined Strength and Accelerating the Relocation of Labor and Population

The redistribution of labor and population contributes to the reorganization of social production, which is a major campaign, one that goes beyond a single economic sector and demands the scientific coordination of many economic, cultural and social sectors.

The achievements that have been recorded over a period of many years show that it is only possible to develop a new lands area well when there is smooth coordination among many different sectors within the area in order to quickly

establish material-technical bases supporting production and build the welfare projects supporting a population center.

This process of relocation not only has the effect of transferring a portion of the population from one place to another in the sense of "spreading out the population"; on the other hand, it is not simply designed to send unskilled labor into a new land area to produce a certain quantity of agricultural products. Here, we must attach importance at the very outset to preparing, in a relatively full manner, all the conditions needed to build and improve a land area that is still wilderness or reorient the development of an area in accordance with planning based on larger, more central interests and under the most appropriate and advanced economic structure possible. At the same time, we must gradually establish new population areas in which laborers and their families can achieve material and cultural lives at least equal to those at the places from which they came.

We have not given light attention to providing political and ideological education to the masses at the places from which persons are departing and at places at which they are arriving; however, one basic advantage in our favor is that we have created confidence on the part of laborers in the economic, cultural and social development lines of the party and state. One important factor is that the party committees and governments on the various levels have turned their awareness and thinking into concrete actions and very effective measures. As a result of adopting effective measures, Binh Thi Thien and Thanh Hoa Provinces were able to send, in the space of 1 or 2 months, tens of thousands of persons to new socio-economic areas. Only by truly taking action and having cadres keep abreast of the movement can we promptly meet the new requirements of laborers. Living reality, their sense of responsibility for their own lives and the requirements of the development of society are the forces propelling the masses to overcome the many difficulties they face and carry out the relocation of labor and population more quickly, on a larger scale and better.

The development of a new land area and the building of a new population center are not designed to implement within them the many economic and social plans of many different sectors. We can only achieve the desired result when there is coordination on the part of many related sectors for the purpose of formulating a single, uniform plan, one which includes strict regulations concerning the responsibility of each sector and is implemented in a well coordinated, precise manner. In the recent past, this coordination has not been as good as it could have been and we have only succeeded in meeting the requirements that exist with regard to economic development while not attaching appropriate importance to cultural, public health and educational needs. This phenomenon is quite clearly manifested in the structure of the labor force that we have relocated as well as in the reorganization of the population in newly established areas. The coordinated implementation of the established program must be achieved at both points: the place from which persons are being relocated as well as the place to which they are being sent. In the process of formulating this plan, we must base the plan on the requirements of economic development while taking into consideration the traditions, habits and work skills of specific segments of the population so

that we avoid sending persons familiar with ocean fishing to the mountains to work in the forestry industry.

We can still achieve a more rapid rate of relocation of labor and population and do so better if there is close, smooth coordination among many sectors and levels, that is, if we know how to utilize the combined strength of many functional agencies in the redistribution of labor and population on a nationwide scale and at each installation.

Improving Policies To Be Consistent with the New Situation

In recent years, the party and state promulgated many policies encouraging people to go build new economic zones. However, the process of implementing these policies has given rise to new requirements and revealed areas in which unreasonable points must be changed, areas which include the investment and price policies and the specific regulations that apply to the entire process of mobilization, selection, allocation, transportation and the providing of supplies for production and to meet the material and cultural needs of laborers. Policies and regulations must be suited to each territory, especially the mountain provinces along the northern border, and each trade, crop and species of livestock.

The process of relocating labor and population helps to organize our social production, which is now developing in breadth through a wide variety of forms of organization; therefore, it is necessary to adopt new regulations that are based on the realities of life. We must quickly detect problems and promptly propose new policies or amendments to established policies in order to make them consistent with the new requirements we face. To begin with, the functional agencies must turn their attention to installations and provide them with specific, practical assistance in developing the two widespread and available factors that exist in many installations and localities, namely, land that is still wilderness or a low coefficient of labor utilization and an abundant labor force that only works a small number of days per year.

In addition to policies regarding investments, supplies and capital construction, we feel that we will soon need to adopt new regulations concerning the system of specialized organizations, regulations which insure that they fulfill their function as quickly and efficiently as possible, provide the best possible support and not pose problems to installations. New regulations must also be added to the policy concerning cadres who go to build new economic zones, the requirements of whom must be an ability to provide economic and social management within a new area that is still encountering many difficulties and shortages. New policies must achieve the objectives of building a new production force, establishing new production relations of both forms, that is, both national and collective ownership, and smoothly combining all three interests: the interests of the state, the interests of the collective and the interests of each laborer in society.

We believe that with the strength of the economic policies that have been promulgated and if we quickly improve upon them with newly adopted policies and promptly mobilize each stratum of the people to participate in the redistribution of labor and population, we can carry out the relocation of

labor and population better and more quickly to meet the needs involved in establishing centralized industrial crop growing areas and support, in the best possible manner, the requirement of increasing the output of export goods so that we can carry out the industrialization of the country, develop collective economic areas and build new industrial zones.

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POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE

WOMEN'S UNION LAUNCHES NEW PUBLIC HEALTH CAMPAIGN

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 8 Mar 84 pp 1, 4

[Article: "In Celebration of International Women's Day, 8 March, Women Emulate To Work With High Productivity, High Quality and High Efficiency; Communist Labor Organized To Help Build Welfare Projects"]

[Excerpt] On the occasion of International Women's Day, 8 March, the Presidium of the Vietnam Women's Union has launched a campaign to have the women of the entire country participate in building health care wards for mothers and children and building village and subward maternity clinics under the guideline "the state and the people working together," thereby meeting some of the pressing requirements of women.

Since the first days of March, many levels of the Women's Union have organized communist labor days during which each woman has contributed 1 work day, the value of which is calculated in money, paddy or products, to help build or equip health care wards for mothers and children or maternity clinics at village public health stations. On the other hand, an educational effort has been directed toward the corps of women cadres within the public health sector to further heighten their spirit of responsibility and their desire to serve and correct the negative phenomena that exist in order to bring about change and progress in the care of mothers and children.

The Ha Nam Ninh Provincial Party Committee and People's Committee have directed the sectors and localities within the province to organize communist work days to build maternity wards and children's wards at installations, with both men and women participating in this work. The Hanoi Youth Union has had all the cadres of its agency participate in the above mentioned work on the occasion of 8 March. The women of Thai Binh have deposited 2 million dong in savings accounts for 5 years without interest to help provide capital with which to build the province's hospital of gynecology and obstetrics. The women of Haiphong have been involved for several years in a labor movement to help build and equip the city's hospital of gynecology and obstetrics, etc.

As of 5 March, the provinces and municipalities of Hanoi, Haiphong, Hai Hung, Ha Son Binh, Ha Nam Ninh, Thai Binh, Vinh Phu, Ha Bac, Quang Ninh, Ho Chi Minh City, Dong Nai, Cuu Long, Ben Tre and Nghia Binh had organized many forms of work suited to each unit in order to enable each member of the Women's Union to contribute 1 work day worth 3 to 5 dong.

Some provinces and municipalities have achieved significant results. For example, Hanoi has received more than 6,000 mandays and nearly 10,000 dong in contributions. Ha Son Binh has received tens of thousands of mandays and hundreds of thousands of dong. Haiphong has received tens of thousands of mandays worth a total of 464,745 dong. With the money collected, women have purchased cloth to sew clothing for physicians, doctors, new mothers and newborns and provide utensils and other necessary equipment for maternity wards, children's wards and maternity clinics.

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